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THE  
NEW ROBINSON CRUSOE;  
AN INSTRUCTIVE AND ENTERTAINING  
HISTORY,  
FOR THE USE OF  
CHILDREN OF BOTH SEXES.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.

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Embellished with Thirty-two beautiful Cuts.

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V O L IV.

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1871

RECEIVED OF THE

STATE OF NEW YORK

THE SUM OF

TEN DOLLARS

FOR

RENT

OF THE

LOT OF

LAND

IN

THE

CITY OF

ALBANY

AND

FOR

THE YEAR

1871



T H E

## NEW ROBINSON CRUSOE.

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TWENTY-THIRD EVENING.

**R**OBINSON and Friday might have been asleep about half an hour, when the former was suddenly awakened by a violent storm, which began and was at the height almost in the same instant. The roaring of the wind was dreadful, and the earth shook with repeated claps of thunder. "Do you hear this?" said Robinson to Friday, awaking him. "Heavens!" replied he, "what would have become of us if we  
A 3 had



had been surpris'd at sea in such weather?" Just at that moment they heard the report of a gun at a great distance.

Friday thought it was thunder; Robinson was firmly persuaded that a gun had been fired, and this belief filled him with joy. He starts up from bed, runs to the fire-place, bids Friday follow him, snatches up a burning piece of wood, and mounts his ladder of ropes. Friday followed his master's example, without knowing what his intentions were.

Robinson made haste to kindle a large fire upon the top of the hillock, to signify to the people at sea in distress that they would find a safe refuge upon that island; for he had not the least doubt that there was some ship in distress near at hand, and that the report of the gun which he had heard was a signal of their danger. But scarce had the fire begun to blaze up before there came such a shower of rain as put it out in a moment. Robinson and Friday were obliged to hasten to the cave, for fear  
of



of being carried away by the water, which ran in floods. The whistling of the wind, the roaring of the waves, the loud bursts of thunder, all sound with redoubled tumult; and though, in the midst of this tremendous agitation of the elements, Robinson thought he could distinguish now and then some reports of cannon, yet he doubted whether they might not be the bursting of thunder at a distance. However, notwithstanding his doubts, he indulged himself with the flattering thought that there might be a ship near at hand, the captain of which, if he escaped the danger of this dreadful storm, might take him and his faithful Friday on board, and carry them to Europe. Ten times he attempted to light the fire, and ten times the rain put it out. All that remained in his power to do for the unfortunate people who were struggling against shipwreck and death, he did: he prayed for them with the greatest devotion.

*Rich.* He was not afraid, then, of the storm, as formerly?



*Mr. Bill.* No; you see him now perfectly cured of that senseless fear. But how was this cure wrought?

*Rich.* By his having a clear conscience, which reproached him with no crime.

*Mr. Bill.* Right; and, moreover, by a firm persuasion that the Almighty is a being of the purest benevolence, and that, consequently, nothing happens to those who are endowed with true piety and virtue but what conduces finally to their greatest happiness. —It was day-break before the storm ceased. As soon as it was clear, Robinson, suspended between hope and fear, went to the sea-side, accompanied by Friday, to ascertain whether his conjectures were well or ill founded. But the first discovery that they made filled Robinson with grief, and almost plunged Friday into despair. The wind had driven their boat out to sea. It would have melted any one with compassion to be witness of Friday's excessive grief, when he saw himself disappointed in the pleasing hope of soon returning to his father. His natural  
com-



complexion forsook his face, and was succeeded by a ghastly paleness: he could not utter a single word; his eyes were mournfully fixed upon the ground; his whole body was agitated as if his soul were striving to part from it, and to break the bonds which held them united. Suddenly his grief bursts forth in a flood of tears, and he beats his breast and tears his hair, sobbing all the while as if his heart would break.

Robinson had learned, from his own misfortunes, to feel for those of others, and particularly to calm and sooth the sorrows of the afflicted. He was touched with Friday's excess of grief; he felt for his situation, and endeavoured to comfort him by exhortations full of tenderness and good sense. "Who knows," said he, "whether the loss of our canoe may not be for our advantage? Or who can tell of what service this storm, which has carried away our boat, may be in its consequences either to us or to others?" "What service!" said



Friday tartly; "it has deprived us of our canoe, that is all."

"Then because neither you nor I, narrow-minded, short-sighted beings as we are, can perceive any other effect of the storm than the loss of our canoe, do you suppose that God, whose wisdom is unbounded, had no other purpose in view when he stirred up this tempest? How can thy feeble understanding dare to judge of and limit the immense designs of Omnipotence!" "That is right," said Friday, "in a general view; but, as to us in particular, of what service can the storm be to us?" "You must not ask me that question. Nothing less than omniscience can comprehend the boundless plans of that Being who rules the Universe. I may, indeed, exhaust myself in conjectures, but who will satisfy me whether they are just or not? Perhaps there might have been raised or gathered over our island so great a quantity of dangerous exhalations, that nothing less than such a storm could disperse them, and thus pre-  
serve



serve us either from some violent distemper or even from death itself. Perhaps this boat, the loss of which grieves us so much, might only have served to convey us to our ruin. Perhaps—But why all these perhapfes? Is it not sufficient for us to know that it is God who raises and lays the tempest at his will, and that in him all creatures have a wise and tender father?”

Friday, recovering his composure, was ashamed of his error, repented of his murmurs, and submitted to the decree of Providence. In the mean time, Robinson did not cease to cast his eyes round to every part of the vast ocean that was open to his view; he could not help looking out for some vessel; but there was not the smallest appearance of one. He concluded, therefore, that he had been mistaken, and that what he had supposed to be the report of guns had certainly been thunder. Grieved at the thought of giving up so agreeable a hope, he returned sorrowfully towards his habitation.



But even here he was not at ease : his fancy still ran upon a vessel at anchor near the island. He went up, therefore, to the top of the hillock, from whence there was a full view of all the Western coast, but he could discern nothing that flattered his hopes. Still vexed and uneasy, he went to a very high hill, from the top of which he could view the Eastern coast, and climbing with all speed up to the summit, he casts his eyes round the sea—But heavens! what is his joy when he discovers that he has not been mistaken!

*The Children.* Oh dear!

*Mr. Bill.* He sees a ship, and, notwithstanding the distance, he sees it so distinctly as to be convinced that it is one, and of pretty large burthen. You will excuse me, my dears, if I forbear attempting to describe the excessive transports of his joy. He flies like lightning to his cave, and arrives quite out of breath. He snatches up his arms, without which he never went to any great distance, and unable to say  
any



any more to Friday, who was astonished to see him in such a hurry, than these words, "There they are! quick! quick!" he remounts the ladder of ropes, and sets off again with the utmost precipitation.—  
[See the Frontispiece to this volume.]

From his master's hurry and confusion, and the few words that he spoke, Friday supposed the savages to be at hand; taking up his arms, therefore, he followed him with all speed.

They had at least twelve miles to go before they came to that part of the shore off which the vessel seemed to lie at anchor; nor did Friday learn the cause of his master's hurry until he arrived at this spot. Robinson shewed him the ship at a distance. Friday could not conceal his astonishment; for, notwithstanding the distance, he guessed it must be at least a hundred times bigger than any thing which he had ever seen of the kind.

Robinson expressed his joy in a thousand different ways; sometimes he danced, sometimes



times he halloo'd, and sometimes he embraced Friday with tears in his eyes, and congratulated the good fortune of both. Now, indeed, they should set off for Europe, and come to England! Now Friday should see how the people live in that country! what houses they inhabit, and how they pass their time in peace, enjoying all the conveniencies and pleasures of life! Thus he ran on without stopping, and would perhaps have talked for an hour, had he not recollected, that to lose the precious time in useless words was now particularly unreasonable, and that he ought, by every method in his power, to endeavour to make himself visible to the people in the ship. But how was this to be done? Here was what puzzled him.

He endeavoured to make them hear him, but to no purpose, though the wind had changed during the storm, and blew, at present, off the island towards the ship. He then begged his friend to make a fire directly, which might be seen by the people



ple on board. This was quickly done; and they kindled a blaze that rose as high as the tops of the trees. He had his eyes constantly fixed upon the ship, expecting every moment to see them lower a boat, and send it towards the shore. But his expectations were all in vain.

At last, as the fire had been lighted now more than an hour without any appearance of a boat, Friday offered to swim to the ship, notwithstanding its distance, and invite the crew to come on shore. Robinson joyfully consented to this, on condition, however, that he should take care not to expose himself rashly, nor neglect any thing for the preservation of his life. Immediately Friday strips off his cloaths of matting, cuts a branch, and, holding it between his teeth, springs boldly into the waves. Robinson accompanied him with his eyes and most friendly wishes.

*Charlotte.* But why the branch, papa?

*Mr. Bill.* A green branch is, among the savages, a sign of peace. He who approaches



proaches them with a bough in his hand, has nothing to fear from them. It was for his security, therefore, that Friday took this precaution.

He arrived safe at the vessel, and swam round it twice or thrice, calling the people, but nobody answered. Perceiving the ladder at the ship's side, he went up by it, holding the branch in his hand.

When he was high enough to see all over the deck, he was frightened at the sight of an animal, such as he had never seen in his life ; it was covered with black woolly hair, and as soon as it saw Friday, it uttered such noises as perfectly surprised him. However, it soon ceased crying out, and appeared so mild and so engaging, that Friday was now no longer afraid of it : the creature approached in a manner so humble, and crept along wagging its tail and whining so plaintively, that Friday supposed it to be entreating his help and protection. When it had crept close up to him, and stopped, Friday ventured to pat it, and the creature seemed trans-



transported with joy. Friday walked all over the deck, calling the people, but nobody appeared. While he was lost in admiration of the many surprising objects that he saw on the deck, and was standing with his back to the hatch-way, he received, all of a sudden, so violent a blow behind, that he fell flat on his face. Getting up in a great fright, he looks round him, and stands petrified with consternation, on beholding a creature of a pretty large size, with crooked horns, and a long bushy beard, rearing itself upon its hind legs, and preparing, with a threatening air, to make a second attack upon him. Friday roared out as loud as he was able, and jumped into the sea.

The first of these animals, which was black, and which I need not name, as, no doubt, you know what it is, from the description that I have given you of it——

*Rich.* Oh! it was a water spaniel.

*Mr. Bill.* You have guessed it. The spaniel, in imitation of Friday, jumps also into the water, and swims after him. Friday,



day, hearing the noise of something that fell into the water behind him, imagined the horned monster to be pursuing him. He was so terrified at the thought, that he was scarce able to swim, and ran great danger of drowning: a fresh instance from which we see how hurtful the passion of fear is, since it hurries us into dangers to which we should never be exposed, if we did not suffer ourselves to be overpowered by it.

He did not even dare to look behind him: however, after he had a little recovered from his fright, he swam so fast that the spaniel could scarcely keep up with him. When he reached the shore, being unable to speak, he fell down quite spent at Robinson's feet. The spaniel landed a few minutes after.

Robinson spared no pains to bring his faithful companion to himself. He rubbed his temples, shook him, and called him aloud by his name. But it was some time before Friday opened his eyes and spoke. As soon as he was able, he began to relate  
the



the terrible adventure that had happened to him; how the ship appeared to him a great mountain of wood, on which stood up three large trees (meaning the masts); how the black creature had shewn him a thousand marks of fondness; and how the monster with the beard and horns had attempted to kill him: lastly, he added, that he believed the monster to be master of the floating mountain of wood, as he saw no man on it.

Robinson listened to him with a good deal of surprise. The horned monster he supposed to be a goat. As to the ship, he concluded that it was fast upon a rock or sand bank, and that the crew, fearing to be wrecked, had quitted it, and taken to their boats for safety, but he could not conceive what was become of them. If they had reached the island, the spot where he then stood with Friday was the most likely place for their landing; but he could perceive no traces of them. If they had perished, yet either their bodies or their boats, or both, would, in all probability, have been thrown upon  
some



some part of the shore. However, at length, he recollected that the wind had changed during the storm, and, from an Easterly gale, had shifted suddenly to the West. This circumstance seemed to explain to him what he found so much difficulty in comprehending at first.

“Certainly,” said he to himself, “the people who took to their boats must have been driven back by the Westerly gale from reaching this shore; the wind must have carried them Eastward; so that, perhaps, they have perished in the open sea; perhaps they were carried away by some current; or, perhaps, before the shifting of the wind, they might have touched on one of the islands to the Westward. Heaven grant that this last conjecture be true!” cried he, with a sigh. And he communicated his opinion to Friday, who thought it not improbable.

“But what are we to do?” said Robinson. “Whether the crew have perished, or are only tossed about by the winds, in either



ther case we can do nothing better than unload the ship of whatever effects we can move. But how are we to attempt this now that we have no canoe?" At that moment he felt for the loss of his canoe almost as much as Friday had a few hours before; he thought of every method possible either to replace it, or to substitute something else in its room; but he was a long time without hitting upon any thing that would answer. To build another canoe, would take up too much time. To swim to the ship, was an attempt that he durst not undertake on account of the distance. Besides, what could he expect to save by doing so?

*Rich.* I know very well what I would have done.

*Mr. Bill.* Well, what would you have done?

*Rich.* I would have made a raft.

*Mr. Bill.* That was precisely the idea that struck Robinson at last. "A raft," said he to himself, "will be soonest made."

*Henry.* Now, what is a raft?

*Rich.*



*Rich.* A raft is a number of beams tied close together, so that one can walk upon them, and this will carry you upon the water as well as a boat.

*Mr. Bill.* You are very right; and just such a raft did Robinson intend to make to carry him to the ship, that he might save whatever goods he could bring away. It was resolved that one of them should go to the cave and bring back provisions for a day, as well as all the cordage and tools that he should find. As Friday was the more active of the two, he was charged with this business; and while he performed it, Robinson cut down trees proper for the raft.

Friday could not be back before night-fall: in the mean time Robinson was much delighted with the spaniel, for which he felt a kind regard as coming from Europe.

The spaniel, for its part, seemed perfectly happy in meeting with so good a master, and played a number of amusing tricks before Robinson. At Friday's return, Robinson gave the spaniel part of his supper, though



though this was the first food that he had tasted himself the whole day. Luckily it happened to be a moon-light night; they both, therefore, worked without ceasing till near midnight, when they found themselves so overpowered with sleep, that they could no longer resist its approaches.

*Edw.* I do not wonder at that; they had not slept the whole night before.

*Geo.* Besides, they had been stirring about so much all the day, especially Friday.

*Mr. Bill.* They lay down upon the grass, and the spaniel at their feet, as their guard. Thus, till the return of the dawn, they refreshed their bodies, and gathered new strength in sound and undisturbed repose.



## TWENTY-FOURTH EVENING.

*MR. Bill.* Scarce had the ruddy morning begun to appear in the Eastern part of the horizon, when the wakeful Robinson roused his companion to go on with the work which they had begun the day before. They worked so incessantly the whole day, that the raft was finished that very evening.

Thy had joined a double row of trunks of trees together in such a manner with cords and willow twigs, that it formed, as it were, a solid floor, fit to lie even on the water, and about twenty feet long, with nearly the same breadth. They had also been careful to construct this raft upon rollers close to the beach, that they might the more easily set it afloat without loss of time.

Fortunately, the tide was on the ebb about break of day. They did not delay a moment in launching their raft, that they might have



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have the advantage of the ebb, which, like a current, would carry them out towards the ship. They push off, are now upon the open sea, and in less than half an hour come alongside of the ship.

What were Robinson's feelings when he approached this European vessel! He would have kissed it, and glued his lips to every part of it if possible! That it came from Europe, was built, manned, and conveyed thither by Europeans, were circumstances which could not fail to render it dear to him. But, alas! these Europeans themselves had disappeared—perhaps had been swallowed up by the waves; an afflicting surmise to Robinson, who would cheerfully have sacrificed half of the days that he had still to live, on condition of finding the crew, and setting sail with them for Europe. But as he was obliged to give up this hope, it only remained for him now to save as much of the goods out of the ship as he could for his own use.

*Geo.* But could he take possession of goods that did not belong to him?

B 2

*Mr.*



*Mr. Bill.* What think *you*, Richard, could he do so?

*Rich.* He might, to be sure, take them out of the ship, and carry them ashore; but if the owners appeared, he was obliged to restore them.

*Mr. Bill.* Thus justice decrees certainly. If he did not take out the goods, they would be spoiled by degrees in the sea-water; he had, therefore, some right to the use of them; he might, without any scruple, take to himself whatever he found most necessary, and keep it, looking upon it as a recompense, which the owners, if ever they appeared, could not justly refuse him for the trouble that he had taken in saving the remainder of the cargo.

As to what concerns shipwrecks in general, the following customs are observed in some civilized states. The shipwrecked goods are generally divided into three parts; the first for the owners, if living, or, if not, for their heirs; the second is given to those  
who



who have saved the goods; and the last belongs to the sovereign of the country.

*Edw.* The sovereign! Why has he a share?

*Mr. Bill.* That is a question to which I cannot, at present, give you a very satisfactory answer; however, I will inform you of every thing on the subject that is within your comprehension. The prince or sovereign of the country, by whatever title he is styled, maintains upon his coasts a number of persons who are obliged, by their station, to look after shipwrecked goods, that none of them be carried off, but that whatever is saved may be lodged in a place of security. Without this precaution, the merchant, to whom the cargo belongs, would seldom recover any part of it, because the goods would always be either stolen or spoiled. Now, as the sovereign is at the charge of maintaining these people, it is but just that he should be indemnified by those who reap the advantage of so expensive an establishment. For this reason, it has been regulated in some countries, that the



third part of shipwrecked goods should belong to the sovereign of the place.

Consequently, Robinson was authorized to appropriate to himself two-thirds of the goods that he might be able to recover out of the ship, and to apply them to whatever use should seem best to him, as being his lawful property.

*Rich.* Two-thirds ?

*Mr. Bill.* Yes ; one-third for his pains and trouble, and the other, as being the only lawful sovereign of the island near which the vessel had been wrecked.

*Edw.* But who made him sovereign of the island ?

*Mr. Bill.* Common sense. A country, like any thing else, which has no owner, naturally belongs to him who first takes possession of it ; and such was exactly the case here.

When Robinson was a little recovered from the excess of joy which he felt at the sight of an European ship, his first wish was that it might not prove to be damaged, but  
capable



capable of being set afloat. In this case he was resolved to embark in it with Friday, and set sail, if not for Europe, at least for some European colony in South America, or the West Indies, notwithstanding the danger of being on the open sea in a ship without sufficient hands to work it, and without having the knowledge of navigation which a sea-voyage requires. He sailed round the ship on his raft, and examined the depth of water about it, but had the mortification to be convinced that he must never expect to see it afloat again.

The storm had lodged it between two rocks, where it was jammed in so fast, that there was not the least possibility of moving it one way or the other, and it was likely to remain in its present situation until the force of the waves should disengage it by dashing it in pieces. Disappointed in all his hopes for the preservation of the ship, Robinson hastened aboard to examine the cargo, and see whether that was damaged. Friday still remembered his fright so strongly, that he



could scarce persuade himself to accompany his master upon deck. He ventured, however, at last, though not without trembling, as the first object that met his eyes was the terrible horned monster.

But he was no longer so fierce as before : he was lain down, and seemed exceedingly weak and hardly able to rise. The fact was, that, for three days past, nobody being at hand to give him his usual food, he had received little or no nourishment. Robinson, who suspected this to be the case the moment he saw the animal's enfeebled state, made it his first care to seek for something to appease its hunger. As he was very well acquainted with the inside of a ship, he was not long in finding what he sought, and had the pleasure to see the goat devour with the greatest eagerness what he brought it; while Friday, for his part, could never sufficiently admire the odd figure of the animal, as he thought it, having never seen any thing like it before.

Robinson began next to take a survey of the ship; he went from deck to deck, and from



from cabin to cabin, and found every where a thousand things, which, in Europe, one would scarce think worth looking at, but which to him were of infinite importance. In one part was a stock of biscuit, rice, flour, corn, wine, gunpowder, balls, shot; in another place were ship cannon, muskets, pistols, swords, hangers, and cutlasses; elsewhere there were hatchets, saws, pincers, gimlets, rasps, planes, hammers, iron bars, nails, knives, scissars, needles, and pins. Farther on, he sees pots, porringers, plates, spoons, tongs, bellows, fire-shovels, and other kitchen utensils, some of wood, others of iron, tin, and copper. Lastly, he finds chests full of cloaths, linen, stockings, shoes, boots, and a number of other things, for any single one of which, if it had been offered to him for sale, Robinson would freely have given his lump of gold, which he had long since forgotten.

Friday was lost in amaze at the sight of so many objects, all equally unknown to him, and the uses of which he could not so much



as guess. Robinson, on the other hand, could not contain himself ; he wept for joy : like a child, he touched every thing, snatched up every thing, but laid it down as soon as he saw any thing else that he liked better. He was going, at last, down to the hold, but found a considerable quantity of water in it ; a proof that there was a leak in the ship's bottom.

He considered what he had best carry ashore in this his first trip, and found some difficulty in making his choice. Now he thought one thing most indispensably necessary, now another, and frequently rejects what he had just preferred, and makes it give place to another, which is also rejected in its turn. At length, however, his choice was fixed upon the following objects, as being to him the most valuable of any that he could carry away : 1st. two barrels, one of gunpowder, the other of shot ; 2d. two muskets, two brace of pistols, two hangers, and two cutlasses ; 3d. two suits of cloaths, complete, for himself and Friday ; 4th. two dozen of shirts ;



shirts; 5th. two hatchets, two saws, two planes, two iron bars, some hammers, and several other iron tools; 6th. some books, paper, pens, and ink; 7th. a tinder box, with matches, flint, and steel; 8th. a hog-head of biscuit; 9th. some pieces of sail cloth; 10th. and last, the goat.

*Henry.* The goat? Oh! he could have done without the goat.

*Mr. Bill.* That is very true, Henry; but the goat could not so well have done without him. Robinson was too compassionate to leave the poor creature exposed to the danger of perishing with the ship, which might be sunk before he came back. Besides, there was room for her (for it was a she goat) on the raft after it had been loaded with every thing that seemed to claim his greatest regard. No! he did not forget the poor goat—he carried her with him.

But he disdained to take many articles which in Europe would have been eagerly seized the first of all. A barrel of gold



dust, and a casket of the most valuable diamonds, he found amongst the captain's effects, but was in no wise tempted to take them away, as they could not possibly be of any service to him.

He had employed so much time in examining the ship, in opening and emptying the chests, in indulging his joy and admiration, in chusing and placing upon the raft what he had a mind to carry away, that, when all was done, he had only an hour to spare before the tide would begin to flow again. They were obliged to take the advantage of it; for, without the flow of the tide, they would hardly be able to gain the shore. Robinson spent this hour in dining after the European fashion, which he had not done for a long time before.

He brought out, therefore, a piece of hung beef, a few herrings, some biscuit, butter, cheese, and a bottle of wine, and laid the whole upon a table in the cabin. Friday and he sat down upon chairs. The very circumstance of dining at a table, sitting



ting upon chairs, having plates, helping themselves with knives and forks; in short, of making a meal with the advantage of so many European conveniencies, gave Robinson a pleasure that it would be impossible to express: not to mention the victuals, particularly the bread, which had been so often in vain the object of his wishes. You cannot imagine how delicious they tasted to his palate. One should, like him, be deprived for nine years successively of all those sorts of food, and all those conveniencies, in order to conceive, in its full extent, the luxury that he enjoyed.

Friday, who knew nothing of the European manner of eating, was very much puzzled in handling his knife, and still more his fork. Robinson shewed him how to use them; but Friday, endeavouring to imitate him, and to put a bit of meat into his mouth with the fork, from pure habit lifted up his hand with the handle of the fork to his lips, while the piece of meat went off towards his ear. Robinson having made Friday taste  
the



the wine, he firmly refused to drink any of it: accustomed, as he was, to spring water, his palate could not bear the fiery strength of a fermented liquor. The biscuit, on the other hand, was quite to his taste.

The tide now beginning to flow, they get upon the raft, push off, and are carried gently towards the island. In a short time they come to shore, and hasten to land the goods with which the raft was loaded.

Friday was very curious to know the meaning of all those things and their uses. To satisfy his curiosity, Robinson goes out of sight behind a bush, and dresses himself in a shirt, stockings, and shoes, together with an officer's uniform complete; then, putting a laced hat upon his head, and a sword by his side, he comes, all at once, and shews himself to Friday. Seized with astonishment, Friday starts back a few paces, doubting, at first sight, whether it were really his master, or some being above the human species. Robinson could not help laughing

at



at his amazement ; he held his hand out to him in a friendly manner, assuring him that he was still the same, still his friend Robinson, though he had undergone a change of dress, and, in some measure, of fortune. He gave him a suit of sailor's cloaths, shewed him the use of each part, and desired him also to retire behind the thicket and change his dress.

Friday went accordingly ; but, how long was he dressing ! and how many trials did he make ! He put on each part of the dress wrong : for instance, he put his two legs through the sleeves of the shirt, ran his two arms into the breeches, covered his head with the seat of them, and tried to button the jacket behind. What awkward attempts at dressing ! However, he was fortunate enough to correct all his mistakes, and, at length, dressed himself properly at all points.

He jumped for joy, like a child, when he saw how well he was clothed, how convenient and easy this dress was to the body,  
and



and how proper to defend him from the stings of muskitoes. The shoes alone were disagreeable to him; he thought them inconvenient and useless. He begged leave, therefore, to put them off, and Robinson gave him full permission to do in that respect whatever he pleased.

He also shewed him the use of the hatchets and several other tools, with which he was quite delighted. They began to make immediate use of them, in cutting a mast for their raft, that, with the help of a sail, they might, for the future, be able to go to and from the ship without being obliged to wait for the ebb and flow of the tide. Robinson undertook this task alone, and sent Friday to his dwelling-place to milk the lamas, which they had neglected for two days past.

During his absence, Robinson loaded one of the muskets. He proposed to have the pleasure of surprising his friend with the astonishing effects of gunpowder. As Friday, at his return, was admiring the dis-  
patch



patch with which Robinson had finished his work, the latter perceived a sea-gull flying away with a fish that he had seized out of the water. He snatches up his musket, and says to Friday, "Do you see that sea-gull? He shall fall this moment." And so saying, he levels at the bird, draws the trigger, and fires. The sea-gull falls.

Imagine, if you can, Friday's terror and surprise. He fell down as if it were himself that had been shot. Immediately his old superstition revived concerning *Toupan*, who produces the thunder. Astonished and confused as he was, he took his master for *Toupan*. He raised himself up on his knees, and held out his hands, in a trembling and suppliant manner, towards Robinson, without being able to utter a single word.

Robinson was far from making a joke of any thing that concerned religion, though ever so erroneous. The moment, therefore, that he suspected Friday's superstitious notions, he was vexed that he had not previously informed him of what he was going



to do when he fired, and, therefore, hastened to clear up his mistake. He raised him in a friendly manner, embraced him affectionately, bid him take courage and cease trembling; and added, that he would teach him, in a moment, how to make the same thunder and lightning; for there was **nothing** but what was perfectly natural in every thing he had seen and heard. He explained to him the nature and effects of gunpowder; shewed him the construction of the gun; and, loading it in his presence, gave it to him, that he might fire it off. But Friday was still in too great a fright, and begged Robinson to try the experiment in his stead. He, therefore, set up a mark about a hundred yards off, and fired, while Friday stood by his side.

He was very near falling a second time, so terrible did what he saw and heard appear to him. There were several grains of shot in the mark, which had entered pretty deeply into the wood. Robinson, having remarked this to him, made him perceive  
how



how secure they must be for the future against all attacks of the savages, while they had this artificial thunder and lightning in their power. What he was now witness to, and what he had seen in the ship, inspired him with so profound a veneration for Europeans in general and Robinson in particular, that for some days he could not recover that air of familiarity which he had usually kept up with his friend. Night coming on put an end to the agreeable labours of this happy day.

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## T W E N T Y - F I F T H E V E N I N G .

*MR. BILL.* I suppose it will be agreeable to you, my dear children, if I begin directly, and without any preface, upon our friend Robinson's affairs.

He



He had not ever since his coming to the island enjoyed a more agreeable night's rest than the last, because he had not seen himself so happy as at present; and never was man more touched with love and gratitude towards his Supreme Benefactor, to whom he was indebted for this happiness. How often, when alone, did he offer up his thanks, in the most respectful posture, to the Heavenly Disposer of all Things, for the blessings that he had vouchsafed him! Nor was he content with feeling these sentiments of gratitude himself, he endeavoured also to communicate them to Friday. With this view, he taught him, before they went to rest, a prayer of thanksgiving, which they both repeated with softened and grateful hearts, to the praise of the Supreme Being, the Universal Father of Nature.

The next morning they rose pretty early, and carried all their goods into a coppice, where they covered them with boughs of trees to secure them from the rain if it should



should fall, and then set off with the first ebb to return to the wreck.

I forgot to tell you that they had provided themselves with oars, so that this trip was made in much less time than the former, and to the full as fortunately. They took care, in the first place, to lower down upon their raft all the planks that they could find in the ship, with which they might cover the raft as it were with another floor, and so keep the goods much drier than those which they had carried away the day before.

Robinson examined the cargo afresh, to chuse whatever he should think preferable in so great a quantity of goods, which he could not carry away all at once. He was not, indeed, so much puzzled this time, as he had already secured the most necessary articles ; however, he chose nothing without fully weighing the value of it.

Amongst other things he resolved to carry away one of the six small carriage guns that were in the ship.

*Rich.*



*Rich.* A gun ! I think he might have carried away something more useful.

*Mr. Bill.* Yes, so we may think who see things at a distance. Robinson, on the contrary, who judged of his situation from a nearer view of it, thought this gun a very necessary article, were it only for his ease and security.

*Rich.* How so ?

*Mr. Bill.* The part of the shore, where he was obliged for the present to lodge what goods he had brought out of the ship, was open on every side, and, unfortunately, at no great distance from the spot where the savages used to land. He might, indeed, depend with tolerable security upon the use of his guns and pistols, in case of an attack, but the idea that he should be thereby reduced to the cruel necessity of killing some of those unhappy savages, made him shudder whenever he thought of it. His design was, therefore, in having a piece of cannon on the shore, to fire a ball over their heads when they approached the island  
in



in their canoes, and so terrify them, and make them perhaps sheer off and return to their own country.

You see now, my dear Richard, how liable we are to be mistaken, when we take upon us to give an opinion concerning the behaviour of other persons. We very seldom know all the motives that induce a man to act; how can we, therefore, be so presumptuous as to set up for judges of his actions? A wise man thinks that he can never be too circumspect in the judgment which he passes upon the conduct of other persons; he even forbears to give an opinion unless he be obliged; he is sensible that he has enough to do to look to himself and his own affairs; and thus, my dear children, we will endeavour to act for the future.

Besides the piece of cannon, they placed also upon the raft the following articles: 1st. three small bags, one of rye, another of barley, and the last of pease; 2d. a chest



chest of nails and screws ; 3d. a dozen of hatchets ; 4th. a barrel of gunpowder, with balls and shot ; 5th. a sail ; 6th. a grindstone.

*Rich.* Why that ?

*Mr. Bill.* To sharpen knives, hatchets, and other tools, when they required it.

*Rich.* Were there no stones upon the island ?

*Mr. Bill.* Yes, plenty ; but none fit for sharpening their instruments. Have not you observed, that those stones which are used for that purpose are of a particular sort, and much softer than most others ?

*Rich.* Yes, I have.

*Mr. Bill.* Well, Robinson had never yet found upon his island any of that sort of stone, which has less hardness than stone in general, and seems composed of grains of sand. But a grindstone is not only exceedingly useful, but indispensably necessary to those who make use of sharp iron tools. He preferred it, therefore, without hesitation,



tion to the gold-dust and diamonds, which he had valued so little before, and had left behind him in his first trip to the vessel.

Before he set off to return, Robinson examined the condition of the ship. He found that the leak was gaining ground, and that the rubbing of her sides against the rock, occasioned by the motion of the waves, had already loosened and started several planks. He foresaw, therefore, that the first gust of wind would dash the ship to pieces, and concluded that he must be expeditious if he wished to save much more of the cargo.

As the wind blew then towards shore, they were able to reach it solely by the assistance of their sail and oars, though the ebb, which had scarce run half down, was against them. In their way to the shore, Robinson blamed himself much for one thing. His way of thinking here proves him to have been a perfect lover of justice.

*Edw.* For what did he blame himself, papa?



*Mr. Bill.* For not carrying away the gold-dust and diamonds.

*Edw.* What would he have done with them?

*Mr. Bill.* He had no view of using these things himself, but he reasoned thus: "It is not absolutely impossible," said he, "that the captain of the vessel may be still alive, and come some day or other to examine whether he cannot save part of the cargo. If a gale of wind were to rise and dash the ship to pieces before you could go back to it, and thus the diamonds and gold-dust were to be lost, how could you justify yourself to the owner and to your own conscience, for having thought merely of saving what might be of use to yourself, without paying the least attention to his interest by saving the goods that would be most valuable to him? Perhaps his fortune, and that of many other persons, depend on this slight instance of attention which you have neglected to pay them. Robinson! Robinson!" cried he, highly dissatisfied with himself,



himself, "how far art thou still from being as just as thou oughtest to be!"

He was on the point of pushing back again before he landed, his conscience was so touched at his neglecting a duty which he with reason looked upon as sacred.

In the mean time they approached the shore, and, just as they were about to land, they ran the risk of seeing all their goods lost in the sea; for, as it continued still to ebb, and the depth of the water lessened every moment, the headmost part of the raft was soon upon the dry sand, and, consequently, higher than the sternmost, which was supported by the water, that was falling every instant. Luckily Robinson and Friday were both astern, and, therefore, able to stop the goods which were slipping off, and to keep them from rolling into the sea.

After they had made all things steady, they were obliged to walk in the water and mud up to the knees before they could get them ashore. By their care and precaution in this business, nothing was either lost or da-



maged, and they were ready to put to sea again before the return of the tide.

Robinson was no sooner aboard the ship but he hastened to convey upon the raft the barrel of gold-dust and the casket of jewels; and, having thus relieved his conscience of a load which lay upon it, he thought he had now a right to think of himself.

In this trip he carried away, among other articles, some wheel-barrows which happened to be aboard, I know not for what use; a great quantity of cloaths and linen; a number of tools and pieces of furniture; a lantern, and all the papers that were in the captain's cabin. As the tide was now flowing up, they set sail, and, having the advantage of wind and tide, they were quickly ashore.

Robinson spent the rest of the day in taking a precaution which he thought indispensably necessary. He trembled at the idea, that, were a heavy shower to come on, he should be disabled from using what he counted the most valuable of all his effects, namely,



namely, his gunpowder. To prevent such an accident, he resolved that very day to make a tent of a large sailcloth which he had saved, and to lodge his treasure under it, where it would be safely sheltered from the rain.

As he was now provided with scissars and with needle and thread, this work was soon finished, and Friday was not long before he knew enough of it to be able to assist him. He could not sufficiently admire the admirable invention of the needle and scissars; and frequently declared, that, in comparison of the industrious Europeans, he and his countrymen were no better than poor idiots.

They finished the tent before sun-set, and Robinson had still time to shew Friday the effect of a great gun. He charged it with a ball, and pointed the muzzle towards the sea, that the ball might skim the surface of the water, and Friday might see distinctly how far the gun would carry. Robinson put fire to the touch-hole, and though Fri-



day was already in some measure prepared for it by two shots from the musket, yet the explosion being now much louder, terrified him so much, that he trembled from head to foot. The ball marked its course on the surface of the water by lightly dipping and rebounding until it was out of sight. Friday affirmed, that a single shot like this would be sufficient to turn his whole nation of countrymen to sudden flight, if they were even approaching by thousands; because they would not have a doubt that he who could produce such thunder must certainly be Toupan.

After night-fall, Robinson put a light in his lantern to cast an eye over the papers that he had saved, in order to discover the ship's destination, and to whom she belonged: but, unfortunately, all these papers, as well as the books, were written in a language that he did not understand. Here, therefore, he had fresh occasion to be sorry for having neglected the study of foreign languages when he might have learnt them.

But



But this sorrow, coming too late, was of no use.

Two circumstances, however, which he observed, gave him some information concerning the ship's destination, and the object of her voyage. He found, amongst others, some letters for persons in Barbadoes, an island in the West Indies, where there is a great traffic for slaves.

*Henry.* Traffic for slaves, papa?

*Mr. Bill.* I will explain it to you. In Africa—you remember, I suppose, which way that quarter of the world lies?

*Henry.* Oh, yes; towards the South.

*Mr. Bill.* In Africa, which is the country of the negroes, men, in ignorance and stupidity, do not seem to differ much from the brutes. Their chiefs or kings, who are as savage as themselves, treat them accordingly. If any Europeans arrive on their coasts, whole crowds of blacks are offered to them for sale, as we sell cattle here in a market. Even fathers bring their children, and exchange them for trifles.



Thus the Europeans every year purchase a great number of negroes, and carry them to the West Indies, where they are forced to work at the hardest labour, and are treated in every respect with a great deal of severity. The lot of such a *slave* (for so these unfortunate people are called by their purchasers) is truly wretched, nor can we wonder that many have even preferred death to it.

*Rich.* It is not well done to use human beings in that manner.

*Mr. Bill.* Certainly it is very unjust; and we have hopes that in time this iniquitous traffic of slaves will be abolished.

Robinson found also, among the papers, an account from which he gathered that the ship was bound for Barbadoes, and had a hundred slaves aboard. Having communicated this circumstance to Friday, he added, "Who knows if these poor wretches are not indebted for their liberty to the storm which occasioned the ship to strike? Who knows whether they have not saved themselves



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selves by the boats, and landed on some island, where, their tyrants having no longer any power over them, they now live after their fashion, happy and contented?"

Friday agreed that this conjecture was not wholly improbable. "Well then, my friend," replied Robinson, with some warmth, "could you now repeat the question that you lately asked me?"

*Frid.* What question?

*Rob.* You asked me, of what use could the storm be that carried away our canoe?

Friday looked down, quite ashamed and confounded?

"Oh! Friday," said Robinson, animated with pious zeal, "acknowledge, here, the hand of an all-powerful and all-wise God, which has appeared sensibly in this affair. Consider what the storm has given us, in return for the little that it has taken away. Cast your eyes on all these different articles; they are such as render life commodious and happy. Whence should we have had them were it not for the storm? It is, in-



deed, an unpleasant thing to owe one's happiness to the misfortunes of another; yet, the greatest number of those who were in the ship are now, perhaps, better off than before she struck. As this supposition is not wholly void of probability, what think you now of the power which governs the world?"

"I think," answered Friday, "the wisdom and goodness of that power are inexpressible, and I was a senseless idiot in saying what I did." At the same time, he lifted up his hands and eyes towards Heaven, and implored pardon for the fault which he had committed through stupidity.

Robinson took as much care of the papers which he had been looking over, as of the diamonds and gold-dust, that, if ever he returned to Europe, he might, by means of them, discover the persons to whom he should restore the treasure that he had saved out of the ship.

For six days successively they made two or three trips a day to the wreck, and brought  
to



to land every thing that they could possibly convey away. A thousand little matters which we would scarcely think it worth while to pick up, because we have never felt how disagreeable the loss of them is, were of infinite value to them, and, therefore, they did not neglect to take them away. One part of the cargo consisted of elephants teeth; those they did not touch, because they could make no use of them. They also left behind several hogheads of coffee; as Robinson was determined not to fall again into the habit of using pernicious superfluities though ever so agreeable: but they tore up and carried away as many of the ship's planks as they could, because they seemed likely to be useful, and, consequently, valuable. They took away even the remaining five pieces of cannon, together with all the iron that they either found loose or could loosen from the ship's works.

After they had made eighteen trips, all with good success, they observed, as they were on board the nineteenth time, that a storm was  
rising



rising very fast. They made haste, therefore, to load the raft and push off, hoping to gain the shore by rowing before the storm should gather strength. But in vain; they were scarce half way towards the shore when a violent gale of wind, accompanied with thunder, lightning, and rain, swelled and agitated the sea in such a manner, that the waves, rolling over the raft, carried off all the goods that were upon it. As to themselves, they held pretty close for some time to the mast, so that the waves could not wash them away, though at times they went clean over their heads.

At length, the slightness of the raft began to give way to the fury of the waves. The cordage and other bindings, which held the pieces of it together, being loosened, all the beams of which it consisted quickly came asunder.

*Harriet.* Heavens! what will become of poor Robinson?

*The Children.* Softly! have patience!

*Mr. Bill.* Friday sought to save himself  
by



by swimming, and Robinson seized a piece of wood, with which he was sometimes plunged into the deep, and sometimes rode upon the ridge of the waves. But, being longer under water than above, he had lost his breath, and could neither see nor hear. His strength now forsook him, and he was almost insensible; he utters a weak cry, and sinks down, oppressed by a huge wave, which carries away the beam that supported him.

Happily his faithful Friday was not far from him, though he might have saved himself and gained the shore sooner if he had chosen to do so. When he saw him sink, he, without hesitating a moment, dived down, seized him with his left hand, and by means of his right rose with him again to the surface of the water. He then exerted himself with so much success, that, in a few minutes, he reached the shore with his master's body.

*The Children.* Ah! his body!

*Mr. Bill.* You all seem to be alarmed. I use the word body because Robinson shewed no signs of life.

Friday,



Friday, who was distracted at his master's present condition, carried him a little farther up on the beach, hung over him, called him with a loud voice, shook him, rubbed him, and joined his lips to his mouth to communicate breath to him if possible. At length he had the inexpressible satisfaction to perceive signs of life in him; he, therefore, continued his exertions, and Robinson quickly recovered the use of his faculties.

Opening his eyes, he asked, in a weak and trembling voice, "Where am I?" "In my arms, my dear master!" answered Friday, with tears in his eyes. An affecting scene now took place between them. Robinson thanked Friday a thousand times, and called him his saviour: Friday, for his part, thro' joy at seeing him restored to himself, was almost ready to run wild.

My dear children, we cannot finish the account of that day's adventures with any circumstance more interesting than this. Enough, therefore, for the present time.



## TWENTY-SIXTH EVENING.

*MR. BILL.* Well, my dear children, our friend Robinson is restored to life once more. A good night's sleep in his tent, upon a bed that he had saved from the wreck, recovered him so well, that he was up at day-break; he felt himself possessed of his usual strength, and returned thanks to God for having preserved both his life and health. The storm had continued the whole night, and he waited, with impatience, until it was broad day-light, to see what was become of the ship.

The sun was now above the horizon, and Robinson saw, to his grief, that the ship had disappeared. Planks and timbers, scattered here and there upon the beach, were sufficient tokens that the storm had dashed it to pieces. This being the case,



case, he found some reason to applaud his own foresight in saving every part of the cargo that he could. Happy the man whose prudence and caution always regulate his conduct, and who, in all the accidents which deprive him of any advantage, can say to himself, with truth, as Robinson could upon this occasion, that it was not his fault! How much this inward satisfaction will lighten the misfortunes, which, without it, would be accompanied with the greatest vexation!

Robinson and Friday were particularly careful to gather all the remains of the wreck together on one spot of the beach. They foresaw that every plank and every splinter might be of use another time. When they had finished every thing that concerned the wreck, they formed a regular plan of the employments which were to take place next.

The object was, at present, to convey all these goods to their dwelling-place; but they thought it dangerous, while they carried



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ried one parcel, to be at so great a distance from the rest. Robinson settled it, therefore, that they should carry the goods and stand guard alternately, the one in the morning, the other in the afternoon. He loaded the carriage guns, ranged them beside each other, like a battery, and pointed them towards the sea. They kindled a fire, which he who stood sentinel was to take care to keep up; and they placed a match beside the guns, that they might be ready to fire whenever the case required it.

Robinson made the first journey to carry the goods home. In order to spare his best cloaths, he had dressed himself like a sailor; and, instead of the weapons that he formerly wore, he had now a cutlass by his side, and two loaded pistols in his girdle. He began by loading his wheel-barrow with some casks of gunpowder and other articles which were most in danger from the rain. The water-spaniel, which had never quitted him, was, by no means, a useless companion on this journey. Robinson harnessed him



him to the wheel-barrow, and the dog was of considerable service to him in conveying the burthen forward. As these spaniels are very docile, and capable of being taught many things, this dog was soon trained to his new employment, and acquitted himself in it as well as any beast accustomed to the draught. He carried also a parcel in his mouth, which he had been taught to do by those to whom he formerly belonged.

At his return, Robinson brought all his lamas, ready harnessed for carrying burthens, in order to use them for that purpose. As there were seven of them, and each of them was able to carry one hundred and fifty pounds weight, you may easily calculate the weight of goods which they, all together, conveyed home every journey.

So many articles could not all be stowed in Robinson's cellar. He hastened, therefore, to pitch another large tent in the enclosed ground before his cave. This was meant as a store-tent for the present, until other means should be contrived for securing  
ring



ring the things. In eight days the whole was carried home, except a number of boards and timbers which they sheltered as well as they could with thickets and brushwood.

*Harriet.* But, papa, you have not told us any thing more about the goat.

*Mr. Bill.* Ah! very true; I had nearly forgot her. Well, the goat, as you may suppose, was brought home also, and put into a little park along with the tame lamas, and she agreed very well with them.

What agreeable employments have Robinson and Friday now before them! They scarce know where to begin. However, Robinson, who had contracted a taste for regularity, as well as the habit of it, quickly distinguished the more necessary labours from those which were less so, and did not hesitate in giving the preference to the former. The most important of all was the building of a shed, or storehouse, to shelter the goods, which could not be put into the cellar, more securely than they were under  
the



the tent. Here it was necessary to do the business of a house-carpenter, to which they had neither of them served an apprenticeship.

But what could be difficult to the industrious and persevering Robinson now that he was provided with all sorts of tools? The most troublesome pieces of work, and those in which he had the least experience, were no more than a play to him who had happily succeeded in so many others without assistance or proper tools. The cutting down and hewing out of the trees, the squaring of the beams and rafters, the joining and fitting of them, building of brick walls, making of a double roof, one of boards, and the other of the leaves of the cocoa-nut tree—were all executed with surprising dispatch.

The little building, when finished, was not much unlike one of our country cottages. Robinson had taken care to bring away with him the ship's cabin windows; they served to give light to the building,  
without



without the inconveniency of holes that would let in the wind. The glass was an object of particular admiration to Friday; he had never seen any before, and he learnt, by experience, the commodious purposes that it serves.

When all was put under cover and in proper order, Robinson thought of contriving for himself a convenient way of entering his fortress without weakening it. The most secure method for the purpose was by means of a common gate and a drawbridge. Being provided with every necessary for this undertaking, as nails, chains, hinges, locks, and iron work of all sorts, he immediately began upon it. They first made the gate and the drawbridge; and, afterwards, they made an opening in the terrace and palisade sufficient for the width of the gate, which they next reared up in its place; then they laid down the bridge in such a manner, that, when raised, it might lie against the gate, and cover it. Lastly, they loaded the guns, and placed them upon the

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terrace, in such positions, that two of them should defend the right flank, two the left, and two the front of their fortification : so that henceforward they might be quite at their ease as to the attacks of the savages, and had, besides, the advantage of an easy and convenient way for going in and out.

When harvest time was come, Robinson made use of an old hanger, instead of a sickle, to cut down his maize, and his wooden spade served him for digging his potatoes. How easily was the work performed with such instruments ! It would have been a pleasure to see them gather their harvest, and still more to assist them.

*Henry.* Oh ! I wish I had been there ! How I would have worked !

*Edw.* Nay, you have no occasion to go so far as Robinson Crusoe's island for work. Papa will find you plenty, if you are fond of it. There is wood to be sawed, to be split, and to be carried ; there are plats in the garden to be dug up ; there is weeding and watering of the flowers ; and, in short, you will always find enough to do.

*Mr.*



*Mr. Bill.* Why do I set you to work at these different employments?

*Rich.* To accustom us never to be idle,  
to strengthen our bodies, and preserve us  
in good health.

*Geo.* For my part, I like it, and you shall always find me, papa, as diligent and industrious as Robinson himself.

*Mr. Bill.* Well, we shall see that. We are very sensible that Robinson was the better for it, and every one of us also experiences more and more the happy effects of an active way of life.

When the harvest was gathered, Robinson made two flails. Friday soon learned the use of them, and in one day they thrashed all their maize. It filled two sacks which might contain about six bushels. They had a stock of biscuits which would last some months; but as it must, of course, lessen every day, Robinson resolved to supply its place occasionally with bread, which he intended to make himself.

He had brought a hand-mill from the ship,



ship, and wanted nothing but a sieve to bolt the flour, and an oven for baking the bread. He found expedients for both. Some fine muslin, of which there was a whole piece amongst the goods saved from the ship, served him to make the bottom of his sieve; and the building of the oven gave him very little trouble; so that the whole was finished before the rainy season came on.

He made, by way of trial, two sorts of bread, one of rye flour, and the other of maize. The rye bread was by far the better tasted of the two, which determined Robinson to give it the preference. He proposed to sow the greatest part of his land with rye, instead of maize, that he might always have a stock of grain sufficient to supply them with bread; nor did this seem an undertaking beyond his power to accomplish, assisted as he was by his man Friday, since in this island they might have two crops in the course of the year.

There was one article that would have been



been exceedingly useful to them, but, unfortunately, they could find nothing of the sort amongst the goods in the ship; and that was an iron spade. It is true, Friday had made one of hard wood that might serve upon occasion, but still they found room to wish for a better; for it is certain, that an iron spade is, after all, more handy and effective for breaking up the ground, than a wooden one can possibly be. Robinson, therefore, who determined, for the future, to make agriculture his principal employment, as being, of all sorts of labour, the most agreeable and most useful, conceived the design of fixing up a forge to make spades himself, and, possibly, other instruments besides.

This design was not so extravagant as perhaps you may think it; for every thing necessary for a forge was to be found in his storehouse. There was a small anvil, several pair of pincers, a pretty large pair of bellows, and such a stock of iron, both wrought and in bars, as would probably be



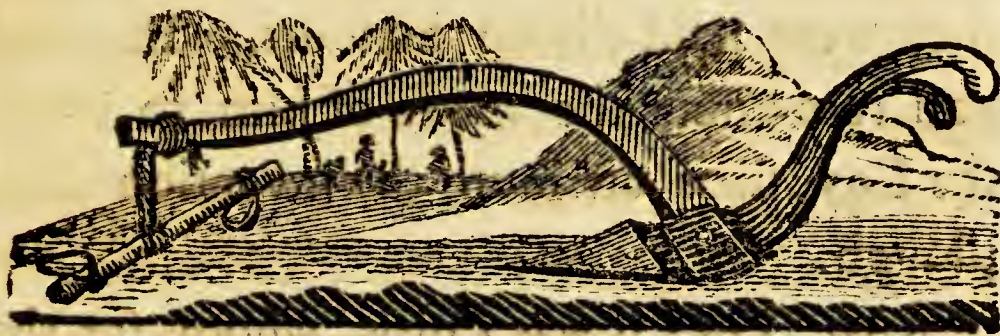
sufficient to keep him in work all his lifetime. This plan was, therefore, immediately put in execution.

By means of a large boarded roof, which they put over the kitchen, it was so extended that they were able to fix up a forge in it, and to work at it even during the rainy season. Part of this season, therefore, they spent in working smiths work; and if they succeeded upon the whole, it was not without some disappointments and unsuccessful trials. When the spades were finished, Robinson had a mind to go a little farther, and to try his abilities at making a plough; and in this also, to his inexpressible joy, he perfectly succeeded.

This plough was, you may suppose, very different from ours. It consisted of a single branch of a tree; one end of which, bending down, rested on the ground, and was furnished with a sock, and also a handle, by means of which the person who ploughed might guide it at pleasure: at the other end they were to harness their oxen, or horses;



horses; but as they had none, they were obliged themselves to supply their places. In a word, this plough was exactly like that in use amongst the ancient Greeks, at their first undertaking the practice of agriculture. I can give you a sketch of it here.



*Henry.* Really, it is a very curious plough.

*Geo.* Had it no wheels?

*Mr. Bill.* No: you see it had not. All instruments were at first as simple in their make as this plough. By degrees men made additions for greater convenience: so by altering and improving they encreased the utility and commodiousness of the tools necessary for their different labours.

In the mean time, Robinson had every reason to be proud of this invention; it was



wholly his own, for he had never seen a plan of it. By all that we can learn from history, many ages of the world elapsed before men arrived at the invention even of so simple a machine as this plough; and the inventors of it were looked upon by posterity as men of such exalted wisdom, that, after their death, they were paid divine honours. Richard, you remember the name of him to whom the Egyptians attribute the invention of the plough.

*Rich.* Yes; it was Osiris, whom, for that reason, they afterwards worshipped as a god.

*Mr. Bill.* The Phœnicians ascribed this useful invention to one Dagon, whom they also regarded as a being of superior order, and called the Son of Heaven.

*Edw.* But could not Robinson make the lamas draw the plough?

*Mr. Bill.* At first he doubted whether they were fit for this work, as they seemed rather beasts of burthen than of draught; however, he determined to make a trial of them, and the success of it exceeded his hopes.



hopes. They became gradually accustomed to the work, which, at length, they performed in every respect as perfectly as if Robinson and Friday had been brought up ploughmen, and the lamas had been trained like our beasts of draught.

To sow their field according to all the rules of art, there wanted but one instrument, which they could scarcely do without, and which they had not found in the ship.

*Henry.* I can guess what that was.

*Mr. Bill.* What do you think?

*Henry.* A harrow.

*Mr. Bill.* You are right. Without it tillage would be imperfect. By means of it we break the clods, throw the grains of corn into the furrows, and cover them, without which they would never spring up, but be devoured by the birds.

In the first place, Robinson made as many iron teeth as he thought would be necessary for the harrow. After some unsuccessful attempts, he, at length, succeeded in making the wooden frame in which these



iron teeth were to be fixed. Lastly, he made as many holes in the frame as it was to contain teeth, and when he had driven them in, and clinched them, the harrow was finished.

The rainy season being over, he sowed two bushels of rye, one of barley, and half a bushel of pease; and, at the end of five months, he had the satisfaction to gather a crop of twelve times as much seed as he had sown, namely, twenty-four bushels of rye, twelve of barley, and six of pease; a stock more than sufficient to last them six months. But, like a prudent œconomist, he was willing to have a superabundance of every thing, because there might come on a season of scarcity; besides, hail or other accidents might destroy his crops. He resolved, therefore, to have a barn, which, being filled every half year, might always contain a sufficient stock, in case a crop should happen to fail.

With this intention, when the weather was settled fair, they unroofed the storehouse, in order to add another story to it, which



which might serve as a granary. The building of this required more skill and labour than that of the ground floor; but their indefatigable perseverance triumphed over all difficulties, and the work was soon happily completed.

During these transactions, the goat yeanned two young ones; so that the species might now be multiplied and kept up on the island. The spaniel served as a guard by night, and Poll, the parrot, amused them at table, and pretty often also when they were at work. On the other hand, the lamas were become more valuable to them than ever; as, besides affording milk, butter, and cheese, they assisted in tilling the ground. In order, therefore, to be perfectly happy, Robinson wanted nothing now but—guesses.

*Rich.* To be with his father and mother.

*Mr. Bill.* And to have some more companions. Being only two upon the island, they must expect, sooner or later, one of them



to die before the other, who would then remain a poor hermit, separated from all the rest of mankind. Yet Robinson looked upon it as a blameable weakness to make one's life miserable by the dread of evils that are possible, but still concealed in futurity. "The same power," thought he, "who has hitherto provided for me in all things with such unexampled bounty, will still continue to exert it in my favour." Thus his life passed in tranquillity and content. He enjoyed inwardly peace of mind; and, without, every thing promised him the most perfect security. Happy state! May God grant you all to enjoy the same!

"Amen," said Mrs. Billingsley; and the company separated.



## TWENTY-SEVENTH EVENING.

*MR. Bill.* Well, my dear children, I have a great number of things to relate to you this evening.

*The Children.* Oh! so much the better! that is charming!

*Mr. Bill.* Provided only that I find myself able to do it.

*The Children.* Oh! dear papa, we shall take care not to interrupt you, so that you will certainly be able to get through it.

*Mr. Bill.* Well, I shall try; but prepare yourselves for a fresh scene of horror, the event of which cannot be foreseen—By your motions I can nearly perceive what your conjectures are; the sequel will shew whether they are just.

If I were to go on now enumerating to you all that Robinson performed every day by the help of the tools with which he was provided,



provided, the recital would not amuse you very much.

*Rich.* It might be agreeable enough ; but we can easily imagine all that.

*Mr. Bill.* I shall only inform you, that they successively attempted many different arts, and imitated most sorts of tradesmen — the baker, the blacksmith, the taylor, the shoemaker, the carpenter, the joiner, the wheelwright, the potter, the gardener, the butcher, the fisherman, and several others ; they imitated them, I say, with so much success, that they were soon able to make up a hundred things, for which we indolent Europeans require as many different workmen. Their strength encreased in proportion as they exerted it, and their minds, being in a state of constant activity, and always in search of some useful object, were improved every day more and more. May not this be regarded as a proof that we were created for the same activity, since health, virtue, and happiness, are the necessary consequences of it ?



Six months passed away in these agreeable employments, during all which time Friday durst not revive the scheme of taking a voyage to his own country ; but frequently, after finishing his task of work, he would go up the hill from whence he could see his native island, and there, buried in profound thoughtfulness, he lamented the misfortune of being separated from his father, perhaps for ever. Robinson, for his part, had avoided speaking on the subject, because it was not in his power to comply with his friend's wish while the necessary arrangements, which their new way of living required, were still unfinished.

At present the most indispensable parts of the business were completed, and Robinson was the first to propose the building of another boat, to go and seek Friday's father. At this proposal, the young man's joy was as great as formerly on the same occasion, and his thankfulness to Robinson appeared in the same manner. The work was begun the very next day, and, with the help of  
good



good hatchets, was finished, as you may easily imagine, much better and much sooner than the first time.

One morning that Robinson was engaged in the ordinary cares of his habitation, he sent Friday to the sea-side for some turtle, which was now become a rarity to them. After a short absence, he came back running at full speed. Out of breath with running and with fright together, he could but just stammer out these words, "Here they are! here they are!"

Robinson, in a fright, asked him hastily whom he meant. "Oh! master! master!" answered Friday, "one, two, three—six canoes!" In his flurry he could scarcely bring out the number six.

Robinson ran hastily up to the top of the hillock, and saw, not without shuddering, that Friday had counted right. He perceived six canoes full of savages, just ready to land. Coming down immediately, he bid Friday be of good courage, who stood trembling all the while; and he asked him, whether,



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whether, if they should come to an engagement with the enemy, he would stand by him faithfully, to the best of his power.

“Yes,” answered he, “to the last drop of my blood;” for, having had time to recover himself, he felt his courage mount by degrees to its usual pitch. “Well,” said Robinson, “let us endeavour to prevent these monsters from executing their horrible designs. I will explain my intention to you as we go along; this is not the time to talk—we must act.”

With these words, he wheeled down one of the carriage guns, took six muskets, two brace of pistols, and two hangers. Each of them put a brace of pistols in his girdle, a hanger by his side, and three muskets on his shoulder, and when they had taken a sufficient quantity of powder and ball, they harnessed themselves to the gun, and with a firm countenance took the field under all that formidable and warlike apparatus.

Having passed the drawbridge, they halted. Friday went back into the fort to raise



raise the bridge and shut the gate, and then, by means of the ladder of ropes, which always hung to the rock, he came out again, and joined his general. Robinson thought this precaution necessary, that, in case their undertaking should not succeed, the enemy might not be able to get possession of his fortress.

Here Robinson explained to Friday the plan that he had formed. "We will go round the hillock," said he, "and walk through the thickest part of the wood, that we may not be perceived by the enemy; and, then, crossing amongst the thickets, which extend almost to the sea-side, we shall approach the savages without being perceived by them. When within reach of them, we will fire the great gun, and the ball passing over their heads, no doubt, will terrify the barbarians, make them abandon their prey, and take to flight in their canoes."

Friday thought the plan not impracticable. "Thus," continued Robinson, "we shall have the satisfaction of saving the unfortunate wretches whom they intend to devour,



devour, without shedding a drop of blood. But if, contrary to our expectations, they should be encouraged by their numbers, and not take to flight, then, my dear Friday, we must shew that we are men, by bravely facing the danger to which we shall expose ourselves from the most laudable intentions. He, from whom nothing is hid, sees what induces us to endanger our lives; he will preserve them if it be for our advantage: therefore, his will be done."

And so saying, he gave his hand to his companion, and they mutually promised to assist each other to the last drop of their blood.

Having arrived without noise almost at the last of the thickets, they there made a halt. Robinson, in a low voice, desired Friday to steal with all possible circumspection behind a large tree which he shewed him, and then to come back and inform him whether he could discover the enemy from that spot. He brought word back that



that they were easily to be seen sitting round a large fire, and picking the bones of one prisoner whom they had already dispatched; that, not far from them, he saw another lying on the ground, and tied hand and foot, who seemed to be a white man, and had the appearance of a beard; and that, in all probability, he was going soon to share the same fate.

Robinson was startled at this report, especially when he heard mention of a white man. Having a prospect glass about him which he had found aboard the ship, he went to the tree himself, and from thence, by the help of this instrument, could discover that Friday's account was perfectly true. He saw about fifty savages sitting round a fire, and could clearly distinguish the prisoner to be an European.

He could scarcely contain himself; his heart throbbed, his blood boiled. If he were to yield to the fury of his first passion, and fall upon these barbarians at once, it would be the way to shed much blood.

But,



But, as the blind instinct of passion should never get the better of reason, he restrains his transports in order to avoid that unpleasing necessity.

As there was a spot farther on equally sheltered with thickets, he went behind a bush pretty near the savages, and which had an opening in the middle of it large enough to see through, though not to be remarked at a distance; there he points his cannon in such a manner that the ball would pass over the heads of the savages high enough not to hurt them. Then he told Friday, in a low voice, to imitate exactly what he should see him do.

He lays down two of his muskets on the ground, and holds the third in his hand; Friday does the same: he then applies a lighted match to the touch-hole of the cannon, and fires it off.

At the noise of the report, the savages fell backwards on the grass as if they had been all shot at once. Robinson and Friday, on their side, attentive to what passed,  
and



and uncertain what might be the event, prepared for engaging if that should happen to be necessary. In less than a minute the savages rise off the ground, recovering from their astonishment; the most fearful run to their canoes, but the boldest take up their arms.

They had been frightened merely by the noise of the cannon; unfortunately, they did not perceive the fire, nor hear the whistling of the ball. The fright was, therefore, not near so great as had been expected. After looking round on every side without discovering any thing that could terrify them again, they gathered courage, and those who were running away presently returned. They all set up a dreadful yell, and began their war dance, shaking their weapons with furious looks and gestures.

Robinson was undetermined what to do; but observing with surprise, that, when the dance was ended, the whole company of the savages not only took their places again, but sent two of their number to seize the  
un-



unfortunate European, he could not contain himself any longer. He looks at Friday, and says to him, in a low voice, "You take the right, I the left, and Heaven be our defence!" So saying, he presents and fires; Friday does the same.

The man took much better aim than the master; for on the enemy's left there fell five, and on the right only three: of these eight three were killed, the rest wounded. The consternation with which those who were not hurt took to flight, cannot be described. Some ran one way, some another, all of them yelling in the most hideous manner. Robinson was going to sally out from behind the bushes, sword in hand, in order to take advantage of their rout, and deliver the unfortunate European, who lay bound hand and foot; but he saw, with astonishment, a party of the runaways rally all of a sudden, and stand upon their defence. He made haste to take up a second musket, and Friday doing the same, they both fired at once.



At this discharge there fell only two of the enemy; but several of them being wounded, some more, some less dangerously, began to run away, howling dreadfully: presently, three of them fell down, but still with some remains of life.

Robinson, when he laid down the gun that he had just fired, to take up the third, which was still loaded, said to Friday in a loud voice, "Now let us shew ourselves:" at the same instant, they both start from their concealment, and appear before the savages. Robinson flies to the unfortunate prisoner, to shew him that relief was at hand; but as he approaches him, perceives that some of the savages, who before were running away, now that they discovered their enemy, stopped short, and rallied to prepare for combat. He noticed this to Friday, who perfectly understood his master's meaning, advanced a little way, fired, and saw one of the Indians fall.

In the mean time, Robinson, with his knife, cut the bulrushes with which the prisoner's



prisoner's hands and feet were tied, and asking him in English and Latin who he was, the man answered in Latin, *Christianus, Hispanus*; that is, a Christian and a Spaniard. His excessive weakness hindered him from saying any more. Fortunately, Robinson had taken care to provide a bottle of wine, in case of being wounded. He gave the Spaniard a little, which revived him exceedingly, so that he soon began to recover his strength. Robinson then furnished him with a hanger and a pistol, that he might help them to complete the defeat of the savages, and, mean time, Friday was ordered to bring all the muskets, that they might be loaded afresh.

The moment the Spaniard was armed with a hanger and a pistol, he fell furiously upon his enemies, and dispatched two of them in the twinkling of an eye. Friday, with the sixth musket, which had not been fired yet, advanced to support him, while Robinson was hastening to load the other five. The two champions found some re-



sistance at first, and were soon separated; for the Spaniard came to close engagement with a very stout Indian, and Friday, on the other hand, after firing his last musket, pursued, sword in hand, a whole party of runaways, some of whom fell beneath his arm, others jumped into the sea to swim to their canoes, and the rest fled and hid themselves amongst the bushes.

But the Spaniard was now hard put to it. He had, it is true, at first, notwithstanding his weakness, attacked the Indian with great impetuosity, and given him two wounds in the head with his hanger: but this so enraged the savage, that with his heavy stone falchion he was near cutting the Spaniard down, who found it as much as he could do to parry off his blows: nor, indeed, could he at length prevent the furious Indian from seizing him by the middle, throwing him to the ground, and twisting the hanger out of his hand; but in the very moment that he was going to cut off his head, Robinson, perceiving the Spaniard's danger,

danger,



danger, fired at the savage, and killed him on the spot.

Scarce was the Spaniard raised from the ground before he seized a loaded musket, and went with Friday in pursuit of the savages who had fled into the coppice. As they were few in number, and for the most part wounded, Robinson thought it best to remain on the field of battle, and observe the motions of those who had escaped to their canoes. His two friends were not long before they joined him again, with the assurance that there were no more of the enemy in the wood.

They were both about to enter one of the canoes which the savages had left, and to pursue those who were rowing off to sea; but Robinson stopped them. "My friends," said he, "it is enough; we have, perhaps, shed more blood than we ought. Let us suffer those to live who have no longer the intention or the power to hurt us."

"But if we suffer them to escape," re-



plied Friday, " they will, perhaps, return and attack us in greater numbers."

" Well," answered Robinson, clapping him on the shoulder in a friendly manner, and pointing to the Spaniard, " is not our army also stronger now by one-third than it was in the morning? Thus reinforced, we shall be able at any time to cope with an army of these miserable enemies, especially if we stay for them behind our entrenchments."

*Harriet.* That was well done of Robinson, to spare the remainder of the savages.

*Mr. Bill.* It was certainly acting with prudence and humanity. It would have been too cruel to kill, without necessity, a single one of these unfortunate wretches, who had not the least suspicion that there was any harm in what they were doing, and who, on the contrary, embraced, as the clearest truth, that deplorable error, which taught them that to kill and eat a great number of their enemies was a very meritorious action.

*Edw.* Yet, I think, they ought to have known that it was not right to do so.

*Mr.*



*Mr. Bill.* My dear friend, how could they have known it?

*Edw.* Hey-day! Why any little child knows that it is not right to kill a man and then eat him.

*Mr. Bill.* But how does the little child know this? Is it not by being early so instructed?

*Edw.* Yes, certainly.

*Mr. Bill.* And if he had never been instructed on the subject; if his father, his mother, and all those whom he ought to love and respect, had always told him that it is a very laudable action to kill one's enemy, and eat his body?

*Edw.* Nay, why—to be sure—then——

*Mr. Bill.* Why, then, a child would never suspect the contrary. He would rather partake, as soon as he was of age, in the killing and the feasting. This was the case with those poor savages. Let us thank God that we were not born amongst them, but had civilized parents, who early instructed us



in the difference between good and evil, justice and injustice.

Our hero, the friend of human kind, shed tears of compassion when he traversed the field of battle to assist those who were still alive. It was all over with the greatest part of them, and the rest expired in his arms while he poured wine upon their wounds, and endeavoured to recover them. The savages lost one and twenty men, and the victorious army, far from having lost any, had only one wounded; the Spaniard, when he was thrown down, had received a severe bruise.

*Harriet.* But how came this Spaniard amongst the savages, papa?

*Mr. Bill.* That is more than Robinson himself has yet had time to be informed of; therefore, let us restrain our curiosity until to-morrow.

*The Children.* Oh! then, we must stop here.



## TWENTY-EIGHTH EVENING.

*HARRIET.* Well, papa, now for the Spaniard; what brought him amongst the savages?

*Mr. Bill.* Have a little patience, and you shall hear. Some incidents happened in the mean time which I must first relate to you.

*Rich.* Indeed! well, that rouses my curiosity.

*Mr. Bill.* Robinson, having a mind to examine one of the two canoes which the savages had left behind them, went towards it, and, to his great astonishment, he found in it another unfortunate creature, tied hand and foot as the Spaniard had been, and looking more dead than alive.

Robinson made haste to cut his cords, and would have lifted him up, but he was not able either to stand or speak. He lay groan-

E 5.

ing,



ing, no doubt, under the apprehension that they were going to put him to death.

As he was an Indian, not an European, Robinson called Friday, who was then busy in burying the dead bodies, to speak to him in his native tongue. Scarce had he cast eyes on the prisoner before Robinson and the Spaniard saw a scene take place which drew from them tears of benevolent sympathy. Friday, all of a sudden, like a man beside himself, flies to the prisoner, embraces him, locks him in his arms, cries, laughs, jumps, dances, roars, clasps his hands, strikes himself on the face and breast, cries out again, and, in short, acts like one that is delirious. It was some time before Robinson, who questioned and urged him repeatedly, could draw from him this short answer, "It is my father!"

It would be difficult to describe all the marks of filial love and affection which this excellent young man shewed upon this occasion. Twenty times he jumped out of the canoe upon land, and from the land into the







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the canoe again. Some times, sitting down, he opened his jacket, and pressed his father's head to his bosom to warm it; at others, he rubbed the joints of his arms and legs, which were numbed by having been so tightly bound; and now he embraced him again, and covered him with kisses. Robinson, who had still some wine in his bottle, gave it to him to wash his father's limbs, which were grievously swelled. He then stepped aside to let Friday indulge his joy with more freedom.

Returning after some time, he asked him if he had made his father take any nourishment. "The glutton," answered he, pointing to himself, "had before eaten up all." Robinson gave him his breakfast, which he had not touched, and Friday gave it to his father. Scarce had he received it when his son started out of the canoe in a hurry, and went off so quick, that before Robinson had time to say Where are you going, Friday was already out of sight.

He soon appeared again, but did not come back



back with quite such expedition. When he was pretty near, they could see that he had a pitcher of water in one hand, and some victuals in the other. He gave the water to his father, and the victuals to his master in return for the breakfast which he had received from him. The cold water afforded visible refreshment to the old man, who was ready to faint with thirst.

Robinson then turned towards the Spaniard, who, exhausted with fatigue, was lying stretched upon the grass. He made Friday help him also to some refreshment. The Spaniard, by his looks, endeavoured to express his gratitude. He strove to rise, but was not able, being prevented by the pain that he felt in the joints of his hands and feet, which were swelled from having been bound so very tightly. Friday was ordered to sit down beside him, to bathe his arms and legs with wine, and to take the same care of him as he had of his father.

It was truly moving to behold this affectionate son, who, while he attended the  
Spaniard,



Spaniard, turned his head every moment towards his father to see how he was. At one time, when the old man, in order to repose himself, lay down at full length, Friday, quite uneasy, flew to him without speaking a word; but when he saw that his father had only lain down to be more at his ease, he returned in a moment, and continued his attention to the Spaniard. Robinson now had a mind to try whether he could not, with Friday's assistance, convey the Spaniard to the canoe; but Friday, who was young and strong, took that task upon himself alone, and carried him with ease upon his shoulders. When they had placed in the other canoe, not only the cannon and the muskets, but also all the arms of the conquered Indians, Friday quickly entered the first, and, though the wind began to freshen, and was rather against him, yet he made such speed, by dint of rowing, that Robinson, who ran on foot along the sea-side, could by no means equal the swiftness of the canoe. He was scarce



scarce half way home when he saw Friday returning, who passed by him in his way to fetch the other canoe; and before Robinson could get up to the first, where the Spaniard and Friday's father were, Friday was there with the second: with such remarkable swiftness did he row.

They were now opposite their dwelling-place. Robinson hastened thither for some planks and poles, which he put together in the form of a litter or bier, to convey the disabled men to his habitation with more ease. He and Friday carried them up, one after the other. What a treasure was here for Robinson, who longed for nothing so much as the happiness of enlarging his company! His heart beat with joy when he reflected, that, for the future, he need not apprehend being forced to lead a life of solitude again. His satisfaction was complete. As the two invalids seemed to have occasion for nothing so much as rest, Robinson presently warmed some wine to bathe their bruised limbs, while Friday made them



them up a bed, on which, when ready, they delayed not to repose themselves.

The two hosts then prepared a good supper. Friday was ordered to go to the park, and bring home a young lama; Robinson undertook all the rest. He could not help smiling frequently at the thought that he should now resemble a king still more than ever. The whole island was under his dominion; all his subjects were indebted to him for their lives, acknowledged his will as their supreme law, and were bound to expose themselves in his cause to the greatest dangers if necessary. One circumstance was remarkable, that he counted in his dominions as many different sects of religion as he had subjects. Friday had adopted his master's religion, which was the Protestant; the Spaniard was a Roman Catholic, and Friday's father was an idolater.

“What is to be done in this matter?” said Robinson to himself: “have I not a right to oblige them all to embrace the belief



lief which I think best?" He was some time reflecting on this subject, because it was one that had never engaged his thoughts before.

What answer think ye, my dear children, should sound reason have given to this question? Ought he to force his subjects to receive his particular religion, or ought he not?

*The Children.* He should not constrain them in any respect.

*Mr. Bill.* Why not?

*Rich.* Because a man's belief, or way of thinking, is independent of all the world, provided he behaves himself inoffensively in other respects.

*Mr. Bill.* But if a master sees clearly that his subject is in an error, may he not lawfully force him to renounce it?

*Rich.* What would be the consequence? When a man is *forced* to believe, he becomes neither the honestest nor the wiser for it.

*Mr. Bill.* That is true, for violence can never



never convince him that he was in an error before ; and of what use can professing be, when it does not proceed from conviction. Besides, how is a man certain that he whom he would force to embrace his belief, is really in an error ? May he not be mistaken himself ?

*Henry.* Certainly, that might be the case.

*Mr. Bill.* How so ?

*Henry.* Because every man is liable to be deceived.

*Mr. Bill.* Consequently, no man has a right to advance his opinions as incontestable truths.

In fine, my dear children, it belongs to God alone to be the infallible judge of our belief : he alone can decide on the truth or falsehood of our opinions : none but he can know perfectly whether our search after the truth has been earnest and sincere, or slight and negligent ; nor is there any but he who can judge how far our errors are to be imputed to us.

Robinson saw this matter nearly in the  
same



same light. "Far from me," said he, "be the indiscreet zeal which endeavours to force men into its belief! Far from me be the blind frenzy of persecuting and torturing fellow-creatures, merely because they have the misfortune to be deceived, or the virtue to refuse professing publicly that of which they are not convinced inwardly. In my island, at least, such injustice shall never find a place. I will do every thing in my power to enlighten my new subjects; but if I am not happy enough to convince them of their errors, or of the truth of my religion, then I shall leave them to believe what they *can* believe, and to give an account of their faith, not to me, who am their equal, and liable to error, but to God alone, the unerring judge of all."

He, therefore, resolved, that all, without distinction, should enjoy the free exercise of their religion, if it should so happen, that, notwithstanding previous instruction, they could not agree amongst themselves upon one single form of religious worship.

Friday



Friday being now returned, they forthwith proceeded to get ready the supper. "Let us celebrate this day," said Robinson, "as a double festival: on the one hand, we have rescued two fellow-creatures from the voracity of those monsters in human shape; on the other hand, you have found your father."

Friday had no occasion to be exhorted to rejoice; indeed, his heart had never experienced such joy before, and he shewed it continually, by singing, jumping, and laughing, all the while that he performed what he had to do with equal diligence and exactness. Cheerfulness and gaiety, far from being a fault, is ever an amiable quality, when, instead of making us absent and neglectful, it cheers us in our labours.

The two guests now awoke. Although they still felt some pain, yet they found themselves considerably relieved, and able, with the assistance of Robinson and Friday, to rise and sit at table. The old Indian seemed as much struck and astonished at every



every thing that he beheld as his son had formerly been on his first seeing the effects of European industry.

Friday acted as interpreter in the conversation that his master had with the old man and the Spaniard.

*Geo.* Did Friday understand Spanish?

*Mr. Bill.* No; but the Spaniard, who had been six months amongst the savages, could speak the language of Friday's country tolerably well, so that he could understand him. The following is the substance of his account:

“ Our ship was bound to the Coast of Africa for slaves. We were returning from thence, having exchanged all our goods for gold dust, elephants teeth, and negroes. We had taken a hundred slaves on board, and were carrying them to Barbadoes to sell them: twenty of them died on account of our stowing them too close one upon another. A violent gale of wind, which lasted several days, drove us out of our course, and carried us towards the Coast of Brasil. Our ship  
sprung



sprung a leak, so that we durst not trust ourselves out to sea again, but coasted along the main land. Suddenly we were attacked by another gale from the West, that carried us off the coast, and, in the night, we struck upon some rocks not far from an island. We fired several guns, and made other signals of distress, being resolved not to quit the ship until the last extremity. We set the blacks free, that they might assist us in pumping, as the ship leaked in more places than one; but the moment they saw themselves at liberty, they, with one accord, seized our boats, being determined, by means of them, to save their lives, and escape from their masters.

What could we do? It was impossible for us to have recourse to force; we were but fifteen against four score, and, besides, the greatest part of them were armed. On the other hand, how could we think of remaining on board a wreck without a single boat? This would have been exposing ourselves to certain death. We remonstrated with them



them, and even entreated them ; we endeavoured, by our supplications, to prevail on those, who had lately been our slaves, either to remain with us or take us with them. Here I cannot help speaking in the highest terms of the humanity and generosity of these blacks. Though they had received the most rigorous treatment from us, yet they were moved with compassion, and suffered us to get into the boats, on condition that we gave up our arms. We jumped in, therefore, disarmed, and the boats were so overloaded that we expected to sink every moment.

However, we did every thing in our power to reach the island, but suddenly the wind changed, and carried us out to sea in spite of the laborious exertions of the rowers. Our destruction now appeared no longer a matter of doubt : nevertheless, the boats, though overloaded and tost about by the most violent waves, still had the good fortune to live ; and, contrary to all expectation, without losing a single man, we were  
carried



carried to an island perfectly unknown to us, where the inhabitants, simple and humane, received us with the most hospitable benevolence.

We have lived with them ever since, in the best manner we could, but still very indifferently. These poor savages have nothing themselves to subsist on but fishing, and a few fruits which the island produces spontaneously. They shared their little stock of provisions with us chearfully, and shewed us their manner of fishing, that we might ourselves provide a part of our subsistence. The negroes were not so ill off as we, both because they were accustomed nearly to the same way of living, and also because they had recovered their freedom.

Some days ago, this island was invaded by a nation of neighbouring Indians. Every one took up arms, and we should have thought ourselves wanting in the most essential duty of society if we had not assisted people from whom we had re-



ceived such friendly entertainment. I fought by the side of this brave old man, who, like an enraged lion, threw himself into the hottest of the combat. I saw him surrounded, and would have rescued him, but had the misfortune to be made prisoner along with him.

In this dreadful captivity we passed two days and two nights, bound hand and foot, without receiving any nourishment. They now and then threw us pieces of stinking fish, such as the sea left dead on the beach; and these they cast to us with as much disdain as if we had been the vilest of animals.

This morning, at break of day, we were dragged to the canoes in order to be conveyed to the place where these barbarians were accustomed to devour their victims. Providence brought you to our assistance; generous men! you delivered us; so that we have received more at your hands than ever we shall be able to repay you."

Here the Spaniard was silent; being penetrated



netrated with gratitude, he shed abundance of tears. Robinson, for his part, was delighted to find that his former conjectures were amply confirmed, and Friday joined him in admiring the wisdom and goodness of Providence.

The Spaniard, on being asked who owned the ship's cargo, answered, that the vessel had been fitted out by two merchants of Cadiz; that one of them had given an order for the purchase of slaves, but the other, detesting this traffic, desired to have gold-dust in return for his goods.

Upon this, Robinson took the Spaniard by the hand, led him to his cellar, then to the storehouse, and shewed him the most valuable effects of the wreck safely stowed in both places. Friday took upon him to recite the particulars concerning them, and the Spaniard was so struck with astonishment that he could scarce utter a word.

Robinson enquired also in respect to the owner of the diamonds and the officer's dress. He was told that they were both part



of the effects of an English officer, who, having resided many years in the East Indies, was returning to England, but, falling sick on his way home, he desired to be set ashore on the coast of Africa, where he died, and his effects were put on board the Spanish ship to be conveyed to Barbadoes, whence they were afterwards to be sent to England.

Robinson shewed him also the papers that he had taken out of the ship; by means of which the Spaniard learnt the name of the merchant to whom the gold-dust belonged, and also that of the officer's widow to whom the diamonds and cloaths should be restored. From that moment Robinson looked upon the gold-dust, the diamonds, and the papers, as a sacred deposit entrusted to his care.

Night approaching, all parties found themselves so exhausted by the fatigues and dangers of the day, that each one had occasion to retire earlier than usual to seek refreshment in sleep. They did, therefore, what we shall also do as soon as we



we have returned thanks to God for having this day permitted us to enjoy uninterrupted happiness and tranquillity.

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## TWENTY-NINTH EVENING.

*MR. BILL.* The next morning Robinson assembled all the strength of his empire, in order to perform an office which required this junction, and which could not be put off. There was reason to fear that the stench of the dead bodies of the Indians slain the day before might have a dangerous effect upon the air: they provided themselves, therefore, each with a hatchet, and repaired to this scene of horror.

*Henry.* With hatchets?

*Mr. Bill.* Yes; not to dig graves: if that had been the design, they would have provided themselves with shovels, spades,



and pickaxes; but they intended to cut down wood, and make a pile to burn all the bodies to ashes.

*Rich.* That was the custom of the Romans.

*Mr. Bill.* And many other nations besides. Robinson did not chuse to imitate the imprudence of his countrymen, who, at that time, buried their dead in the midst of towns, and even within their churches, where consequently the living must breathe an air infected by the disorders of the dead.

*Harriet.* Hey! why they do so still, papa.

*Mr. Bill.* Yes, unfortunately, they do so. Let this example make you sensible how difficult it is for men to abolish ancient customs, though universally acknowledged to be pernicious: wherefore, I advise you, by early application, to acquire wisdom and virtue. If once we adopt error and vice, if unfortunately we become familiar to them, how difficult is it to get rid of them, even when we are sensible of their danger!

Every



Every body knows in this age that the stench of dead bodies is poison to the living; and yet nobody scruples to deposit them in burying-grounds in the midst of cities, or even in the vaults of churches, where they are not so much as covered with earth. Another century and more will elapse before people will think seriously of abolishing so pernicious a custom.

*Henry.* I wish I were a person in authority! I should settle that matter.

*Mr. Bill.* This, my dear, is one of the principal motives that should induce you to acquire all the good qualities and all the merit possible: then, distinguished by your countrymen, they will honour you with their confidence, and confer on you dignities which will authorize you to reform dangerous abuses; and to introduce wholesome customs. Heaven seems to intend each of you to be one day of the number of those who are entrusted with the power of promoting your country's happiness. Every thing that is necessary for your attaining so exalted a



trust the goodness of Providence has bestowed upon you. You are born of enlightened and virtuous parents, who enjoy the confidence and love of their country; you are endowed with the happiest qualifications of body and mind, which have never yet been spoiled; and, I may venture to affirm, that you are receiving an education which few men have the happiness to receive. It would be a disgrace to any of you to frustrate the good intentions of Providence, which has done every thing to enable you to become men of a superior class, and capable of the greatest things. Your behaviour affords not the smallest doubt in that respect. If, as I hope, you should fulfil your honourable destiny, if you should arrive one day or other at the rank of those powerful men whose actions affect the happiness of so many thousands, make use of the authority entrusted to you to lessen the evils and promote the good of your fellow-creatures; scatter round you joy, prosperity, and happiness. Remember then, also, what  
has



has now given rise to this paternal exhortation, and, if possible, prevail upon your countrymen to bury the dead in places where the stench of their bodies may not injure the health of the living.

*Edw.* Have patience! Let me try what I can do. When I go to town, I will speak of it to my grandpapa and my uncles; they will take care to manage it.

*Mr. Bill.* Do, my dear.—Robinson and his companions, having burned the dead bodies, returned to the dwelling-place. In the mean time, Friday informed his father of the horror wherewith civilized nations look upon the eating of human flesh; which appeared very strange to the old man. But Friday, having repeated to him all that he had himself learned from his master on the subject, gave him at length a disgust to the barbarous custom. As the son was called Friday, Robinson gave the father the name of *Thursday*, and thus we shall call him for the future.

Robinson summoned them all to council,



where Friday still served as interpreter, and his master, as chief, opened the assembly with the following short speech :

“ My dear friends, all who are present see themselves now in possession of whatever can contribute to render their lives peaceable and commodious : nevertheless, I feel, that, in the enjoyment of these good things, my heart will never find satisfaction while I know that there are persons who have a greater right to them than I have, and yet languish in the want of them. I speak of your countrymen, my dear friend, my dear European ; I speak of the Spaniards who are now amongst the savages. I wish that each of you would communicate to me his advice and opinion concerning the properest means for bringing those unfortunate people hither, and making them share the same lot with us.”

After he had finished, each gave his opinion in his turn. The Spaniard first offered to go for them, all alone, in one of the canoes that they had taken from the Indians.

Thurs.



Thursday declared that he was ready to undertake the same expedition. Friday was of opinion, that his father, on account of his age, should remain on the island, and that he himself, who was fitter for the enterprize, should accompany the Spaniard. A generous contest arose between the father and son, which of them should expose his life; and Robinson was obliged to interpose, and terminate it by a decision to which they submitted without murmuring. He pronounced, that Thursday and the Spaniard should make the projected attempt, and that Friday should remain with him.

*Charlotte.* But why did not he send Friday, papa, rather than the poor old man?

*Mr. Bill.* His affectionate friendship for Friday would not permit him to expose him to a danger which he himself did not share with him. Besides, the Father knew the sea, and could navigate it, better than the son. As to the Spaniard, there was a necessity that he should go, because,



if he did not, his countrymen would, perhaps, not accept Robinson's invitation.

It was, therefore, agreed, that they should set sail together as soon as they all four had finished ploughing and sowing a field at least ten times larger than that which they cultivated before, because the encrease of the colony would necessarily occasion a greater consumption of food.

Each of them, therefore, turned ploughman for some weeks, and as they all laboured with a good will, the work was both very well and very speedily performed. At the end of a fortnight they were ready to prepare for the voyage.

Before their departure, the Spaniard gave a proof not only of his honesty and gratitude towards Robinson, but also of his prudence and circumspection. He represented, that the other Spaniards were, like himself, no more than common sailors, and, consequently, people without education; that he did not know them sufficiently to answer for  
their



their behaviour; and that, therefore, he was of opinion, that Robinson, as master of the island, should draw out an agreement, expressing the conditions upon which they should be received, and that none should be admitted without previously accepting his terms.

Robinson, delighted with this proof of his new subject's fidelity, immediately pursued his advice. The agreement which he drew up in consequence of it, was worded as follows:

“ All persons who are desirous of residing in Robinson Crusoe's island, and of enjoying there the conveniencies of life which they are invited to share, must consent,

“ In the first place, to conform in every thing to the will of the lawful master of the island, and to submit chearfully to whatsoever laws and regulations the said master shall judge necessary for the good of the territory.

“ Secondly,



“ Secondly, to be active, sober, and virtuous; for no idle, drunken, vicious person will be tolerated in this island.

“ Thirdly, to abstain from all quarrels, and, in case of receiving offence, by no means to become judges in their own cause, but to carry their complaints before the master of the island, or the person to whom he shall delegate the office of judge.

“ Fourthly, to join, without murmuring, in all the labours which the good of the community shall require, and, in case of necessity, to assist the master of the island at the hazard of their lives.

“ Fifthly, should any person presume to oppose any one of these just laws, all the other members of the community shall be bound to unite against him, either to oblige him to return to his duty, or to banish him for ever from the island.

“ Every one is advised to consider these articles maturely, and not to sign them (which would be equal to the obligation of an oath), unless



unless he is firmly resolved to abide by the conditions of them.

Signed      ROBINSON CRUSOE."

It was settled that the Spaniard should translate this agreement into his native language, and take pen and ink with him, that his countrymen might sign it before they embarked.

They next chose the best of the canoes, and prepared for their departure.

*Geo.* But was there room in one canoe for all the Spaniards?

*Mr. Bill.* No: they only wanted this canoe to sail to the other island: for their return they could use the boats belonging to the Spanish ship, which, as the Spaniard declared, were still in very good condition.

When their provisions were laid in, the wind being favourable, the two deputies set sail, after taking a friendly leave of Robinson and Friday. The latter was so affected at the separation, that even the day before his sorrow had caused him to shed tears for  
hours.



hours together, and took from him all desire of nourishment. At the moment of his father's departure he became inconsolable. Every now and then he embraced him, and bedewed him with his tears. It was not without some difficulty that the old man could escape from him to enter the canoe, and, even after they had pushed off from shore, Friday threw himself into the sea, and swam to the side of the boat, to shake hands with his father once more, and give him his last farewell, which was almost stifled with sobs. On his return ashore he sat down upon a rising ground, where he remained sighing and shedding tears with his eyes fixed upon the canoe, which scudded before the wind until he had entirely lost sight of it.

Robinson, to amuse him, spent the rest of the day with him in shooting game, and traversing the hills. They had not gone very far, when the spaniel, that accompanied them, stopped at the foot of a rock all overgrown with bushes, and fell a barking.

They



They went up to him, and observed a hole in the rock, which a man could not enter without creeping.

Robinson, who loved minutely to examine every thing that drew his attention, desired Friday to try if he could get into the hole, who, in making the trial, had scarce put his head withinside, before he drew it out again in a hurry, uttered a dreadful roar, and ran away with the greatest terror and precipitation, never once listening to Robinson's voice, who called him back repeatedly. At length, overtaking him, Robinson asked, with much surprise, why he had run away. "Ah!" replied he, scarce able to speak, "ah! my dear master, let us run, let us save ourselves with the utmost speed. In that cave is a most terrible monster; his eyes are like burning fire, and his throat so wide that he could swallow us both at once."

"A monstrous throat indeed!" said Robinson: "I should be curious to see it."

"Ah!"



“ Ah !” cried Friday, falling on his knees, “ for Heaven’s sake do no such thing. The monster would infallibly devour you, and then poor Friday would have no master.” “ Has it devoured you ?” said Robinson, smiling. Here Friday hesitated to answer. His master, therefore, desired him to hasten to the dwelling-place, and fetch a lantern. In the mean time, he went back to the rock, and stood sentinel before the hole, with his musket in his hand.

Robinson said to himself, “ What could Friday have seen to terrify him so ? Was it a wild beast ? a lion ? a tiger ? a panther ? or any such animal ? In that case it would certainly be rash of me to enter the hole. But if there were such animals in this island, I should have seen some of them long before now. Besides, if it had been one, Friday could not have escaped its claws. No, no ; it is no such thing. His fearfulness has deceived him, and made him fancy he saw what really was not there to be seen. I will know



RPJCH







know what it is, were it only to cure this good young man of his childish aptness to be frightened.

Friday now arrives with the lantern lighted. He endeavoured once more, with tears in his eyes, to dissuade his master from exposing himself to a danger which he said was so evident, and in which he would inevitably meet his ruin. Robinson was a stranger to fear; when he had once determined upon a step from mature reflection, he was afterwards immoveable: exhorting Friday, therefore, to take courage, he advanced boldly towards the cavern, with a lantern in one hand, and a loaded pistol in the other.

His head was scarce within side of the hole, when, by the feeble light of the lantern, he perceived an object which really made him shudder; nevertheless, he did not run away. Holding his lantern farther in, the better to discover this unknown monster, he found it to be a lama that was dying of old-age. Looking round, and perceiving no other



other animal but this harmless lama, he crept entirely into the cavern, and bid Friday follow him.

The poor fellow was all of a tremble, yet he could not think of abandoning his master; he, therefore, made a noble effort to overcome his fear, and, in short, had the courage to creep into the hole after him, where he saw with astonishment how much his fright had deceived him with regard to the great fiery eyes and huge throat of the animal.

As he entered, Robinson said to him, smiling, "Well, Friday, you see what fear can make us believe. Now, where are the great blazing eyes? Where is that prodigious throat that you saw?"

*Frid.* And yet I really thought I saw them; nay, I could have sworn it.

*Rob.* That you thought so I have not the least doubt; but you ought to have known how deceitful fear is, and that its delusions make us seem to see a thousand things which never existed. Believe me, Friday,

it



it is the foundation of all stories concerning ghosts, and I know not what idle fancies of the same sort. The first tellers of these absurd tales were fearful old women, or cowardly men of the same stamp. They imagined, like you, that they saw something which they did not see; and, like you too, just now, they would have sworn that they saw what they did not see. Be a man, Friday; for the future always look twice; and banish from your breast this fearfulness, which would be scarce excusable in a girl. Friday promised to do his best.

While they were talking, the old lama expired. Robinson and Friday dragged it out of the hole, in order to bury it. They next more attentively examined the spot where they were, and found it to be a very spacious and agreeable cave, which they might in future turn to advantageous uses. It appeared as if hewn out by design: it was cool without the least dampness; and the walls, which seemed to  
be



be of crystal, reflected the light from all sides with as much splendour as if it had been a drawing-room brilliantly lighted up.

Robinson resolved to convert it into an agreeable retreat, where he might enjoy a refreshing coolness during the hotter part of the day, and also lodge any of his provisions that were liable to be spoiled by the heat. Luckily it was no more than a short mile from the dwelling-place, whither Friday presently repaired, and brought back tools, with which they both fell to work to enlarge the entrance. They intended to make a door, and this task employed them agreeably during the absence of their two deputies.



THIRTIETH EVENING.

*EDWARD.* Every time now that papa sits down to continue the story I feel a dread over me.

*Mr. Bill.* What are you afraid of, my dear?

*Edw.* That it will be the last evening.

*Geo.* If I were papa, I would make it last so long—that it should not finish at all.

*Mr. Bill.* My dear children, all our pleasures here below are bounded: this must also have an end, and you will do well to prepare yourselves before-hand for the conclusion of Robinson's adventures. However, even now a storm is rising, as you will soon see; I cannot answer for the consequences of it; be on your guard.

A week was now elapsed without any appearance of the deputies. They began to be uneasy about them. Friday ran



twenty times a day to the top of the hillock or the sea-side, and wearied his eyes to no purpose in looking out for them. One day when Robinson was busy at the dwelling-place, Friday came towards him full speed, singing, jumping, and bawling like a madman, while he was still as far off as he could see his master,—“They are coming! —they are coming!”

At these agreeable tidings Robinson took his prospect glass, and hastened to the top of the hillock. With his naked eye he could perceive at a distance a boat making sail towards his island; but when he put the prospect glass to his eye, the joy that was in his countenance disappeared, and he said to Friday, shaking his head, “I doubt whether those are the people that we wish for.” Friday at these words turned pale.

Robinson looked at the object a second time, and his doubt was now changed into uneasiness. At last, being convinced that they were not his friends who were in the boat, he communicated his alarms to Friday,



PPJCB







day, who was already much disquieted. "My friend," said he, "they are neither the Spaniards nor your father; it is an English boat, with English sailors in it." Friday began to tremble from head to foot. "Follow me," said Robinson, taking the road to an eminence from whence they could better discover the Northern coast. Scarce had they reached it and looked out to sea, when they were struck motionless, and, as it were, petrified with astonishment. They perceived, at the distance of about a couple of leagues, a large English ship lying at anchor.

Surprise, fear, and joy, seized Robinson's breast by turns: joy, at the sight of a ship which might perhaps carry him to his own country; surprise and fear, because he could not conceive what had brought an English ship upon these coasts. It could not be a storm; the weather had been quite calm for some weeks. Nor could the ship's course have occasioned her to come that way. What reason could the captain have for



sailing towards parts of the world where the English have neither settlements nor trade? He apprehended, therefore, that they might be pirates.

*Henry.* What are they?

*Mr. Bill.* There are men to be found, who have been so ill instructed in their earlier years as not even to know that theft is a crime. These wretches make no scruple of taking away other people's property, either by fraud or violence. If they do this on land, they are called *thieves*, or *robbers*; if on sea, they are called *pirates*, *freebooters*, and the like.

*Edw.* But these were Englishmen.

*Mr. Bill.* So they appeared to be, it is true; but it was possible that they might be outlaws and pirates, who, having seized upon an English ship, had dressed themselves in English cloathing. Besides, England has at all times produced as many thieves and robbers as other countries. During the first years of his solitary sojourning in this island, deprived of all manner  
of



of help and society, Robinson would have thought himself happy, had he fallen into the hands of pirates, been carried away a slave, and thus restored once more to the society of men; but now that his situation was much more agreeable, he trembled at the idea of being carried away by such marauders. He imparted his apprehensions to Friday, and they retired in order to observe, at a distance, those who were coming in the boat, and endeavour to discover their design.

Robinson and Friday posted themselves on a rising ground that was covered with trees and underwood, from whence, without being perceived, they could have an eye upon whatever passed. They saw the boat, with eleven men in it, come to land at a part of the shore that was smooth and sandy, and about a mile from the place where they were. The strangers landed; eight of them were armed, and the other three tied neck and heels. These they unbound as soon as they were upon the beach. By

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the countenance and actions of one of them in particular, they judged that he was soliciting the compassion of those who were armed: he fell at their feet in the posture of a suppliant. The other two now and then lifted up their hands to Heaven, as if to implore succour and deliverance.

Robinson, shocked and grieved at this sight, knew not what to resolve on: meantime, Friday approached him with an air of triumph, and whispered, "Well, I find, master, your countrymen eat their prisoners too." "Pshaw!" said Robinson, a little out of humour, "they will do no such thing:" and he continued to observe them with his prospect glass.

It was not without shuddering that he saw some of those who were armed lift up their hangers several times over the head of him who was on his knees before them. At last, he observed that the prisoners were left alone, while the others dispersed themselves in the woods.

All



All three sat down with sorrowful and desponding hearts on the spot where the rest left them.

This sight reminded Robinson of his own deplorable situation the day he was cast ashore upon the island, and it inspired him with the resolution of risking every thing for the preservation of these unfortunate people, if they should prove deserving of it. Having thus determined, he sent Friday home with orders to bring as many guns, pistols, hangers, and as much ammunition, as he could carry.

*Harriet.* What is ammunition?

*Mr. Bill.* Powder and ball. Robinson thought proper to stay upon the spot and observe what passed. Friday having performed his errand, and all the fire-arms being charged, they observed with satisfaction that the sailors, being scattered about, were lain down in the shade, here and there, to sleep, during the violent heat of the noon-day. Robinson, having waited a quarter of an hour, advanced confidently towards the three prisoners, who were still sitting in the



same spot with their backs to him. When Robinson, approaching them, called out suddenly, "Who are you?" they were all three thunder-struck.

They started up, and were going to run away; but Robinson bade them fear nothing, for he was come to assist them. "You are, then, sent from Heaven," said one of them, taking off his hat respectfully, and surveying him with the greatest astonishment. "All assistance comes from Heaven," replied Robinson; "but, not to lose time, tell me in what consists your distress, and how I can relieve you." "I am captain of that ship," said one of them; then pointing to his companions, "this," continued he, "was my mate, and that gentleman a passenger. My sailors mutinied and seized the ship; their intention at first was to kill me, and these my two companions, for finding fault with their behaviour: however, they have at length yielded to our entreaties, and spared our lives; but this boon is almost as bad as death itself. They expose

us



us on this desert island, where, being in want of every thing, we are sure to perish miserably."

"On two conditions," said Robinson, "I will risk my blood and my life to relieve you from this extremity."

"Generous man! let us but know what they are," said the captain.

"They are these: While you remain upon this island, you shall conform in every thing to my will; and, if I succeed in recovering for you the possession of your ship, you shall give me and my companion a free passage to England." "We, the ship, and all that it contains, shall be wholly at your disposal," replied the captain.

"Very well," said Robinson. "I put a musket and a sword into each of your hands, on condition that you shall not use them until I think proper. Your assassins are now asleep and dispersed one from the other: come; let us try and master them without spilling any blood."

They set forward. Friday carried with



him the cords which had been taken off the three prisoners. The first sailor that they came up to lay with his face to the ground, and slept so soundly that they seized him by the hands and feet, and crammed a handkerchief into his mouth, before he was well awake. They tied his hands behind his back, and commanded him to remain on the spot without stirring an inch, or making the least noise, on pain of being put to death that moment. They made him turn his head towards the sea, that he might not observe what was passing amongst his comrades.

The second met with the same treatment; he was tied hand and foot, turned, and threatened in the same manner. Fortune, or, more properly speaking, Providence appeared on this occasion the protector of innocence and avenger of villainy. Six of them were now tied, but the two last awoke, started up, and took their arms. "Wretches!" cried Robinson to them, "see where your companions lie; be assured we  
are



are superior to you in force ; lay down your arms this very instant ; the least delay may cost you your lives !”

They threw down their arms, and, in their turn, fell upon their knees to entreat their captain's pardon. Their hands being tied in the same manner as those of the rest, they were all conducted to the cavern which had been lately discovered, there to be confined. They were then informed that the guard who was to have the care of them would shoot the first man through the head who should attempt to come out at the door. It was also thought expedient to take their knives away.

After this, Robinson and Friday, with their new friends, went down to the boat : they drew it up on the beach, and bored holes in its bottom to render it for the present unfit for use.

*Henry.* Why did they do so ?

*Mr. Bill.* They foresaw, that, when the first boat did not return, the people aboard would send a second. They chose, therefore,



fore, to put it out of their power to take back the first.

What they expected happened accordingly. About 3 o'clock in the afternoon, the ship fired a gun for the sailors who were on shore to return. This signal not being obeyed, though thrice repeated, they saw another boat put off from the ship towards the island. Robinson, with his companions, retired to a rising ground, in order from thence to observe what measures circumstances might require them to pursue.

The boat having come to land, the men jumped out and ran to the first, but were not a little surpris'd to see it drawn up a good way on the beach, and with holes in its bottom. They looked all round, and called their companions by their names, but nobody answered. They were ten in number, all well armed.

Robinson, being informed by the captain, that, amongst those whom they had made prisoners, there were three who from fear alone had joined in the mutiny, sent Friday



day and the mate for them immediately. On their appearance, the captain, to whom Robinson had communicated his design, after reproaching them a little for their behaviour, asked them, whether, if he should pardon them, they would remain faithful to him for the future. "To the last moment of our lives," they said, trembling, and falling on their knees. "Before this mutiny," continued the captain, "I always took you for honest men, and am willing to believe that you were forced to take a part in it. I hope, however, you will make amends for the past by being steady and faithful in future." The three sailors, heartily repenting of their folly, shed tears of joy on being forgiven. The captain gave them back their arms, and desired them to yield a punctual obedience to their common chief.

In the mean time, the people of the second boat were continually calling out, and now and then firing their guns, with the expectation that their scattered comrades would



would hear and join them. At last, finding all their researches useless, and the day now drawing to a close, they began to fear for themselves; they put off, therefore, intending to lie at anchor about a hundred yards from the shore. The captain and Robinson were apprehensive lest they should go back to the ship, and the crew should take the resolution of setting sail and going off with the vessel, and not wait longer to search for their strayed companions. This apprehension filled Robinson and the rest with much anxiety.

Luckily a thought struck him, from which they promised themselves great success. He ordered Friday and one of the sailors to go behind the thickets, about a mile from the boat, and answer the men whenever they called; then, as soon as they perceived that the others heard them, they were to go farther in by degrees amongst the underwood, in order to draw the sailors after them to as great a distance as possible from



from shore ; and, having done this, Friday and the sailor were to return as quick as they could by another way.

This stratagem succeeded completely. No sooner did the sailors in the boat hear a voice answer them, than they hastened to land again, and, taking their muskets, ran towards that quarter from whence they heard the voice. Two were left to guard the boat.

Friday and his companion performed their part admirably. They drew the sailors after them amongst the thickets about three miles from the shore, and then they hastened back with all speed to join their commanders. In the mean time, Robinson had unfolded to the captain his whole plan for mastering these people without bloodshed.

Night now came on, and it grew by degrees darker and darker. Robinson and his companions advanced silently towards the boat, till within about twenty yards of it, unperceived by the two sailors who guarded

it ;



it; then they all shewed themselves at once, and, with much noise and clattering of their arms, threatened the two men with instant death if they dared to stir a step. They begged for quarter, upon which Robinson's party went up to them, and tied their hands. This done, they made haste to draw up the boat to a considerable distance from the water, led away their two prisoners, and concealed themselves behind the bushes, to wait for the return of the other sailors. They came back straggling one after another, and all exceedingly fatigued with their unsuccessful expedition. Their astonishment and vexation at not finding the boat is impossible to be expressed. As soon as there were five of them together, one of those who had been pardoned was sent to them to ask whether they chose to lay down their arms and surrender that moment without murmuring; adding, that, in case of their refusal, the governor of the island had posted a detachment of fifty men not thirty yards off, whose fire could

not



not possibly miss them though it was dark ; that the governor's people had already taken their boats, and made all the rest of their companions prisoners ; so that there was no choice left them but either to surrender or die.

At the same time Robinson and his company made a clattering with their arms, to confirm the sailor's account of their number. "Can we hope for pardon?" said one of them. The captain, who was unseen, answered, "Thomas Smith, you know my voice ; lay down your arms instantly, and you shall all have your lives spared, except Atkins." He, it seems, was the principal ringleader of the mutiny.

They all immediately threw down their arms. Atkins begged for mercy, entreated the captain's compassion, and represented to him that he was not more guilty than the rest. The captain answered him, that all he could do was to intercede for him with the governor, and he must wait the effect of that intercession. Then Friday and  
the



the three sailors were sent to tie their hands ; and the other three mutineers returning at the same time from their ramble among the thickets, they were informed of what had passed, and, dropping all thoughts of resistance, submitted to be tied with the rest.

Upon this, Robinson, as one of the governor's officers, came forward to the prisoners. The captain, who accompanied him, chose out those whom he thought capable of a sincere repentance : these were sent to be lodged near the entrance of the dwelling-place ; the others were put into the cavern. Amongst those who had been put there before, there were two whom the captain thought to be equally disposed to return faithfully to their duty, and these were ordered to be brought to him.

To-morrow evening, my dear children, you shall have the sequel of this adventure.



## THIRTY-FIRST EVENING.

*MR. BILL.* My dear children, we now draw near the conclusion: Robinson's lot will soon be decided: a few hours more and our friend will know whether he is sentenced to remain in his island without hopes of quitting it, or whether he shall be able to gratify his most earnest wish of again seeing his parents.

This depends on the captain's success. Will he, or will he not, with the assistance of the sailors who have returned to their duty, be able to make himself master of the ship? If he can, all our friend's anxiety will be at an end; if not, things will remain as they are, and he must not think of leaving the island.

Those whose lives had been promised them, were lodged, as before mentioned, near the entrance of the dwelling-place; they were ten in number. Robinson informed them, as from the governor, that, their offence being mutiny,



mutiny, they should not receive a full pardon, but on the condition of assisting their lawful commander to recover possession of his ship. They all protested that they would perform this condition with the greatest chearfulness and fidelity. Robinson added, that, if they acquitted themselves properly of this just and reasonable duty, they would not only exempt themselves from all manner of punishment, but also save the lives of their comrades in prison, who, if the ship was not recovered that very night, were all to be hanged the next morning at break of day.

This was also told to the prisoners : they were then left together for a while, that, in this interview, the criminals threatened with speedy death might confirm the others in their fidelity, which was the only possible means that could save their lives.

In the mean time, the ship's carpenter was ordered immediately to repair the boat that had been scuttled ; and, as soon as this was done, they launched them both. It was agreed, that the captain should command



mand one, and the mate the other, the crew being equally divided between them. Every man was provided with arms and ammunition. Robinson took the captain by the hand, and wished him good success. The two boats now set sail.

*Edw.* I wonder that Robinson did not go with them.

*Mr. Bill.* It was not for want of courage; but prudence did not permit him to go upon this expedition. The prisoners in his absence might escape, and make themselves masters of his dwelling-place. This, being his only retreat in case of danger, and containing all his resources, was of too much consequence to him that he should imprudently run the risk of losing it. The captain himself saw the propriety of this consideration, and was of opinion that Robinson and Friday should stay and guard their little fortress.

Robinson, whose destiny was now going to be decided, felt an anxiety and agitation of mind that did not suffer him to rest.

Sometimes he sat down in the cave,  
some-



sometimes he walked about upon the terrace, and sometimes he went up the ladder of ropes to the top of the hillock, to take advantage of the silence of the night, and listen whether any thing was to be heard from that quarter where the ship lay. Though he had scarce taken any nourishment the whole day, he could not prevail upon himself to do it now. His anxiety was continually encreasing, because he expected the signal that had been agreed upon between them: three guns were to be the token of the captain's success, and it was already midnight. He at length reflected, that he was wrong to fluctuate between hope and fear, so *tremblingly alive* to both; and he seasonably recollected a maxim with which he had, not long ago, endeavoured to fortify his man Friday. "In a doubtful case," said he, "always expect the worst. If this worst does not happen, so much the better for you; if it does, you are prepared for it, and have already destroyed half its power to hurt."

Consequently, Robinson considered as indubitable



dubitable the ill success of the expedition. He mustered up all his fortitude and resignation to Providence, to enable him to support this misfortune. He now gave up all hope—when, suddenly, the deep and distant sound of a gun was heard. As if he had been roused out of his sleep, he listens——a second report——then a third! There is no longer any room for doubt: the captain has recovered the ship, and will very speedily set sail for Europe.

Intoxicated with joy, he flies, he slides down the ladder, throws his hands round Friday's neck, who lay asleep upon the grassy slope of the terrace; he presses him to his bosom, and bedews him with his tears, unable to utter a single word. "What is the matter, my dear master?" said Friday, opening his eyes, and terrified at all this hurry and sudden overflow of affection. "Ah! Friday!" was all the answer that Robinson, in the fulness of his joy, could return.

"Heaven have compassion on my poor  
VOL. IV. H master's



master's head!" said Friday to himself, imagining him to have lost his senses. "You must go to bed, my dear master;" and at the same time he was taking him by the arm to lead him to the cave. Robinson, in a tone of voice which expressed his transport, cried, "Me! me to bed! Friday, at the very moment when Heaven is crowning the only wish that my heart has cherished so long! Did you not hear the three guns? Know you not that they are happily masters of the ship?"

Friday, on being informed of this fortunate event, rejoiced, it is true, but more on his master's account than his own. The thoughts of soon quitting his native climate for ever, damped the satisfaction which he would otherwise have enjoyed in going with Robinson and his father to a country from whence so many wonderful things had already been presented to his view, and where he expected to see others still more marvellous.

Robinson was never so affected with the transports



transports of joy before. Sometimes he went up to the top of the hillock, threw himself on his face, lifted up his eyes towards the starry vault, and returned God thanks for having at length procured him the means of departing from this desert island; presently he would go down again, shake his dear Friday by the hand, talk of nothing but Plymouth and Exeter, and begin to pack up the goods. In this agitation he passed the night without once thinking of repose.

At the first peep of dawn his eyes were turned towards that quarter where the ship lay at anchor. He waited with impatience for the moment when broad day-light should give him a full view of the instrument of his deliverance. The moment comes — Heaven! is it possible? — Dreadful idea! — He sees, without the smallest room for doubt — that the ship is no longer there. He shrieks, and falls down in a swoon.

Friday ran to him, but was a long time before he could comprehend what was the



matter with his master. At length, Robinson, stretching his trembling hand towards the sea, "Look there!" said he, with a feeble and almost inarticulate voice. Friday no sooner turned his head that way than he discovered the cause of his master's grief.

I see, my dear children, you know not which sentiment to indulge. You are divided between joy and compassion. You hope that this incident will prolong the story; but our friend's melancholy situation moderates and restrains the liveliness of your satisfaction. You all maintain a profound silence; I will take advantage of it, and go on.

Robinson shews us here, by his example, how careful even the best men should be not to suffer their passions to get the better of them. If he had not at first indulged an immoderate joy, he would not afterwards have fallen into an excessive degree of sorrow, which entirely darkened his reason; he would have been sensible that he ought to support



support the shock with resignation, though it destroyed his dearest hopes; he would have reflected that Providence has means to rescue us from distress, even when we think it impossible. This reflection would have contributed to restore him to tranquillity. Once more, my dear children, you see how much remains to be amended even in persons the most forward in the path of virtue.

While Robinson was desponding, and Friday endeavouring to comfort him, they suddenly heard a noise at the back of the hillock as of several people walking. They rise in a hurry, and looking on that side from whence the noise came, they were agreeably surprised to behold the captain coming up the hillock, accompanied by some of his people. Robinson sprung forward to take him by the hand, and happening to turn himself that way he perceived the ship at anchor in a creek on the Western side of the island. Judge whether his grief was banished in a moment. This sight informed him at once that the captain had



changed his station before the break of day, and moored the ship in that safe and commodious harbour.

Robinson was so overjoyed that he could not quit the captain, who on his side was no less delighted. They thanked and congratulated each other a thousand times. The captain related the manner of his becoming master of the ship without killing or wounding a single person. The night was so dark that the mutineers never saw him, and so made not the least difficulty in receiving those on board who accompanied him. The most refractory were going, it is true, to stand upon their defence, but their resistance would have been vain; they would immediately have been overpowered and laid in irons. When he had finished his recital, he indulged his feelings of gratitude to his deliverer. "It is you," said he, with tears in his eyes, "it is you, generous man! who by your compassion and prudence have saved me and restored my ship. It is now yours; you shall dispose both of that  
and



and me at your pleasure." He then ordered the men to lay on the table some refreshments that he had brought from the ship, and the whole company, with hearts full of joy, sat down to an excellent breakfast.

In the mean time, Robinson related his strange adventures, which more than once excited the captain's highest admiration. The latter entreated Robinson to tell him what he should do for him. "Besides what I stipulated yesterday," answered he, "in return for the assistance that I afforded you, I have three things more to desire of you. In the first place, I request you to wait the return of the Spaniards and my man Friday's father; 2dly, to receive aboard your ship, not only me and my people, but also all the Spaniards, whom you will land in their own country, sailing to Cadiz for that purpose: lastly, to pardon the principal mutineers, and to punish them no otherwise than by letting them remain here on my island, as I am persuaded that it will be the best way to reform them."



The captain, having assured him that these articles should be punctually performed, sent for the prisoners, picked out the most guilty, and told them their sentence, which they heard with a degree of satisfaction, very well knowing that by law they were liable to be put to death. Robinson, ever full of humanity, gave them instructions concerning the manner of procuring themselves subsistence, and promised to leave them what was his best treasure in the island, namely his tools, his furniture, and his cattle. At the same time he recommended to them, over and over, to put their trust in Heaven, to agree together, and to be industrious, assuring them that the practice of these virtues would not a little contribute towards rendering their confinement in this island agreeable.

He was still speaking, when Friday, out of breath, brought the pleasing news that his father was coming with the Spaniards, and that they were that moment landing. All the company prepared to go and meet them.

Friday



Friday flew to the sea-side, and embraced his father again and again, before the rest came up.

Robinson saw with surprise, that, amongst those who came in the boats, there were two women. He questioned Thursday concerning them, who told him that they were natives whom the two Spaniards had married. As soon as these two Spaniards learned that Robinson was going away, and intended to leave some sailors behind him upon the island, they requested permission to remain there also with their wives, alledging, that, after the accounts which they had heard of this island, they could not desire a better establishment.

Robinson, charmed at their request, most readily consented to it. He was well pleased that two men should remain upon his island, of whom all their comrades gave the most excellent character, as it was possible that they might bring back the mutineers, with whom they were left, to a regular and peaceable life. With this view



he resolved to give the Spaniards a degree of authority over them.

Those who were to be left on the island were six Englishmen, and two Spaniards with their wives. Robinson called the whole together, and declared his will to them in the following words :

“ I hope none of you will dispute my right to do as I please with the property of this island and all that belongs to it. I wish equal happiness to all of you who remain here after me. To secure it, there must be a certain order and subordination amongst you, which it belongs only to me to prescribe. I declare, therefore, that I appoint the two Spaniards as substitutes in my place, and that they shall for the future be the lawful masters of the island. You shall all pay them the strictest obedience ; they alone shall have possession of the little fort and live there ; they alone shall have under their care all the arms, ammunition, and tools, but which they will lend you, whenever you have occasion for them, provided  
you



you be quiet and peaceable. In all dangers you shall unite for the common defence. Your labours both in the garden and the field shall be performed in common, and every crop be equally divided amongst you all. Perhaps one day or other I may have an opportunity of hearing from you. Perhaps I may even resolve to come and finish my days in this island, such an affection do I feel for it even at this moment. Then woe be to him who shall have infringed my regulations! He shall be shewed no compassion, but set adrift in a slight boat, to take his chance upon the open sea, let the weather be ever so unfavourable."

They all agreed to these regulations, and promised the most perfect obedience.

Robinson then took an inventory of the few goods that he intended to carry away with him, and which were to be immediately put on board the ship. They were, 1<sup>st</sup>, the dress of skins that he had made for himself, together with the umbrella and the mask: 2<sup>dly</sup>, the spear, the bow and arrows, and



the stone hatchet, which were also his own workmanship: 3dly, Poll, the spaniel, and twolamas: 4thly, several utensils and pieces of furniture, which he had made while he was alone: 5thly, the gold-dust and diamonds: and, lastly, the lump of gold which was his own property.

All these articles being carried aboard, and the wind favourable, their departure was fixed for the next day. Robinson and Friday prepared a dinner, by way of entertainment before their departure, for the captain and those who were to compose the future colony on the island. They served up the best of every thing that was amongst their provisions, and the victuals were so well prepared, that the captain could not sufficiently admire Robinson's skill in entertaining his company. The captain, to imitate the generosity of his host, and to contribute in some measure to the welfare of the new inhabitants of the island, ordered a quantity of provisions to be brought from the ship, together with gunpowder, iron, and



and working tools, all which he bestowed as a present on the colony.

Towards evening, Robinson made his excuses, and begged permission to be alone for an hour, alledging that there remained some important business which he wished to settle before his departure. Every one withdrawing, he went to the top of the hillock; there he revolved in his mind the series of events that had happened during his abode upon the island, and his heart, full of the liveliest filial gratitude, opened itself in thanksgiving to his Supreme Benefactor. How shall I express his pious acknowledgements? But hearts like his will find in their own feelings the expression of those sentiments which I want words to interpret.

The time of their departure being arrived, Robinson affectionately exhorted the colony to be unanimous, industrious, and, above all, religious; and, bearing in his breast a regard for the welfare of the whole, he recommends them as his brothers to that divine protection which he had always won-



wonderfully experienced. He looks round once more with inward satisfaction: again he thanks Heaven both for preserving him hitherto, and for delivering him at present by a miracle of goodness and wisdom: for the last time, he bids farewell to the inhabitants whom he leaves in the island, but in a voice scarcely to be heard. At length he goes aboard, accompanied by Thursday and Friday.

*Some of the Children.* Now the story is ended.

*Rich.* Pray, have patience; who knows whether some obstacle may not yet happen to hinder his departure?

*Mr. Bill.* The wind was fresh, and blew so favourably that the island seemed to withdraw from them very fast. As long as it was in sight, Robinson, standing upon the deck in mournful silence, kept his eyes fixed upon the spot, which, from his having lived upon it for 12 years, and experienced and surmounted many distresses there, was become almost as dear to him as his own native country.







RPJCB



country. At length, having lost sight of the island, and the top of its highest hill, he retired into the cabin with Thursday and Friday, in order to relieve the oppression of his thoughts in the amusement of friendly conversation.

They had a very fine voyage, and in twenty-four days cast anchor in the harbour of Cadiz, where they landed all their Spanish passengers. Robinson went into the town to enquire for the merchant to whom the barrel of gold-dust belonged which he had saved from the wreck. He was fortunate enough to find him, and to learn that the honest merchant, by recovering this gold, would be extricated from the greatest difficulties. The loss of his ship had been followed by the most disagreeable consequences: it had thrown his affairs into such confusion that he *failed*.

*Henry.* Failed? how?

*Mr. Bill.* When a man owes more than he can pay, he gives up whatever property he has remaining to be divided proportionably



ably amongst his creditors, who thus lose each of them more or less; and in this case a man is said to become bankrupt, or to fail.

The barrel of gold-dust was more than sufficient to pay off the merchant's debts. Penetrated with gratitude, he wished to bestow the remainder upon his benefactor. Robinson, far from accepting it, declared that he was already too well rewarded in the satisfaction of having prevented the ruin of an honest merchant.

From Cadiz they set sail for England. In this part of the voyage a melancholy event happened. Thursday fell suddenly ill; all the assistance that could be given him was of no service. You may imagine what Friday suffered, and what was his excess of grief on the death of a father whom he loved beyond expression. The two lamas, also, being no longer able to endure the voyage and the sea air, died soon after.

The ship arrived without any accident at  
Portsmouth.



Portsmouth. Robinson hoped to find there the widow to whom he was to restore the diamonds. He found her, indeed, according to the direction that he had received for her, but in very low circumstances. Having received neither remittances nor even tidings from India for two years, she and her children were reduced to very great distress; in short, they were almost in rags, and poverty was painted in the countenance of each person of the family. Robinson, therefore, once more experienced the satisfaction, so delightful to every man of benevolence, of being an instrument in the hands of Providence to dry up the tears of the unfortunate, and put an end to their distresses. He gave her the diamonds; and as a plant that is almost parched in stalk and branches recovers its strength and verdure after a kindly and refreshing shower, he saw this family, through returning plenty, and the satisfaction naturally accompanying it, lift up their heads once more, make a proper figure in society, and enjoy a happiness arising



arising from independence which they had long since despaired of attaining.

As Robinson found here a small vessel going to Plymouth immediately, he took leave of his captain, not chusing to go by land, and hastened with Friday aboard the Plymouth vessel, which set sail that same evening.

This short passage was soon performed. They were already in sight of the Eddystone light-house, when all of a sudden a violent storm arose, which carried the vessel to the Westward. All that skill and activity could do was put in practice to tack and keep out to sea, but to no purpose: a furious gust of wind rendered all their exertions useless; it forced the ship upon a sand-bank with such violence that she bulged.

The water came pouring in so fast that they had not a thought of saving her: in fact, the people had scarce time to take to their boats, which was the only resource they had to preserve their lives.

They



They fortunately reached shore at a place not far from Plymouth. Robinson and the ship's crew immediately steered their course thither; he, like a poor traveller, now twice shipwrecked, and saving out of all his effects nothing but his faithful spaniel, who swam after the boat, and Poll, his parrot, which flew upon his shoulder the moment she saw him leave the ship. He stopped in Plymouth that night, and the next day learned, that, amongst the goods saved from the wreck, were his umbrella and suit of cloaths made of skins. These, being of no use to the finder, were restored to him by a fisherman for a trifling gratuity. As to his great wedge of gold, it was lost irrecoverably.

*Rich.* Poor Robinson!

*Mr. Bill.* He is now exactly as rich as when he formerly set sail from Plymouth. Perhaps Providence permitted this loss, to prevent any rash young person from being dazzled by Robinson's example, and traversing the world, like him, in the hope of returning with a treasure found by chance.



chance. As to Robinson, the loss gave him very little concern. Proposing, as he did, to live, all the rest of his days, as soberly and with the same perseverance in labour, as he had whilst upon his island, he found a lump of gold to be quite unnecessary in the prosecution of such a plan.

He now took the coach for his native city Exeter. He had already learned at Portsmouth that his mother was dead, that affectionate and tender mother, and he had bitterly lamented her loss. Buried in melancholy on account of this event, he attended very little to the accidents of the road, and passed through the towns of Brent, Ashburton, and Chudleigh, without taking the smallest notice of them. At length he stops in Exeter: his heart beating with joy, he springs out of the coach, and if it had not been for the numbers of people in the street, whose presence somewhat abashed him, he would have fallen on his face to kiss the ground of his native city.

Going into the inn at which the carriage stopped, he chose to send to his father, in order



order to prepare him by degrees for the unexpected return of his son. The man who was charged with this message had orders to tell the old gentleman, at first, that a person desired to speak with him, who brought him agreeable news from his son: he was, after some time, to add, that his son was coming to Exeter; and, lastly, to declare that the bearer of these agreeable tidings was his son himself. Without this preparation, the good old man might have been seized with such an excess of joy as would have cost him his life.

After this precaution, Robinson, who still knew the streets perfectly well, flies to his father's house. As soon as he arrived there, in a transport of inexpressible extacy he throws himself into his father's arms, who trembled all over. "Oh, my father!"—"My dear son!"—was all that they could say. Throbbing and speechless, they remained some time locked in each other's arms; at length, a seasonable flood of tears relieved both their breasts, which were almost suffocated with joy.

Friday,



Friday, whom the multitude of different objects that he saw, filled with surprise, was staring about in silence. His eyes could never have enough. The first day he saw nothing, I may say : he was dazzled, confounded, and could fix on no object.

In the mean time, the noise of Robinson Crusoe's return and his surprising adventures was spread rapidly through the city of Exeter. He was the sole subject of conversation, and every body crowded to see him, every body desired to hear him relate his adventures himself. His father's house was for ever full of people, and Robinson was employed in relating his story from morning to evening ; in the course of which he never forgot to address to the fathers and mothers who heard him the following exhortation, " If you love your children, I pray you, teach them, in their early years, to be godly, sober, and laborious : " and if there happened to be young persons present, he was careful to give them this wholesome advice, " My dear children, obey your parents and your teachers ;



ers; learn diligently whatever you have a capacity to learn; fear God, and be careful—oh, be careful to avoid idleness! It is the mother of every vice.”

Robinson's father was by profession a broker, and he wished to see his son apply to his own business, in order to take it up after his death; but Robinson, long accustomed to the pleasure of manual labour, begged his permission to learn the trade of a carpenter, and his father not opposing his inclination, he put himself, together with Friday, apprentice to that business, in which they made such proficiency, that, before the end of the year, they could work with as much neatness and dispatch as any of the trade in Exeter.

After some time, they opened the business in partnership, and during their whole lives remained faithful friends and inseparable companions. Industry and sobriety were so much a second nature to them, that they could not have passed even half a day in idleness or loose living. In remembrance of their for-



mer solitary way of life, they pitched upon one day in the week to live in the same manner as they used in their island, as far as that could be done. Concord between themselves, indulgence for the faults of others, beneficence towards those whom they knew, and humanity to all men, were virtues so habitual to them, that they could not conceive how any one who neglected the practice of them could be happy. They were particularly distinguished by a pure, sincere, and active piety. Joy and love were seen to sparkle in their eyes, whenever they pronounced the name of the Supreme Being; and they were in pain whenever they heard this sacred name uttered in vain and from mere levity. Therefore, the blessing of Heaven visibly crowned all their endeavours. Being always actively employed about something useful, they reached a very advanced age in health and peace; and the remotest posterity will respect the memory of two men, who, by their example, have shewn to the world in what manner we may best work out our temporal welfare in this



this life, and our eternal happiness in the next.

Here Mr. Billingsley was silent; the children continued sitting some little time longer, in deep reflection, until this thought, *I will endeavour to do the same*, which resulted as a moral from what they had heard, took root in the breast of each, and acquired the force of an immoveable resolution.

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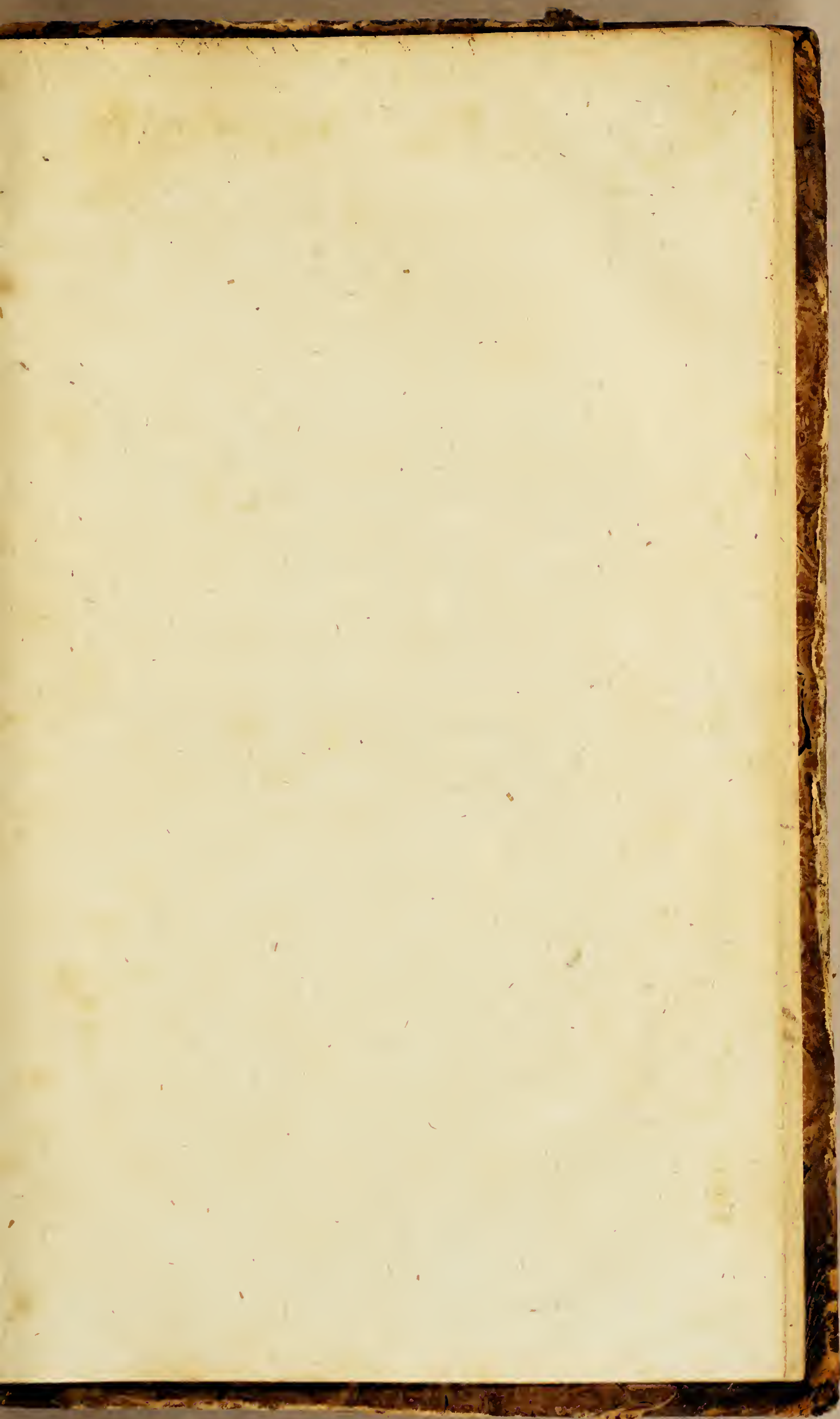
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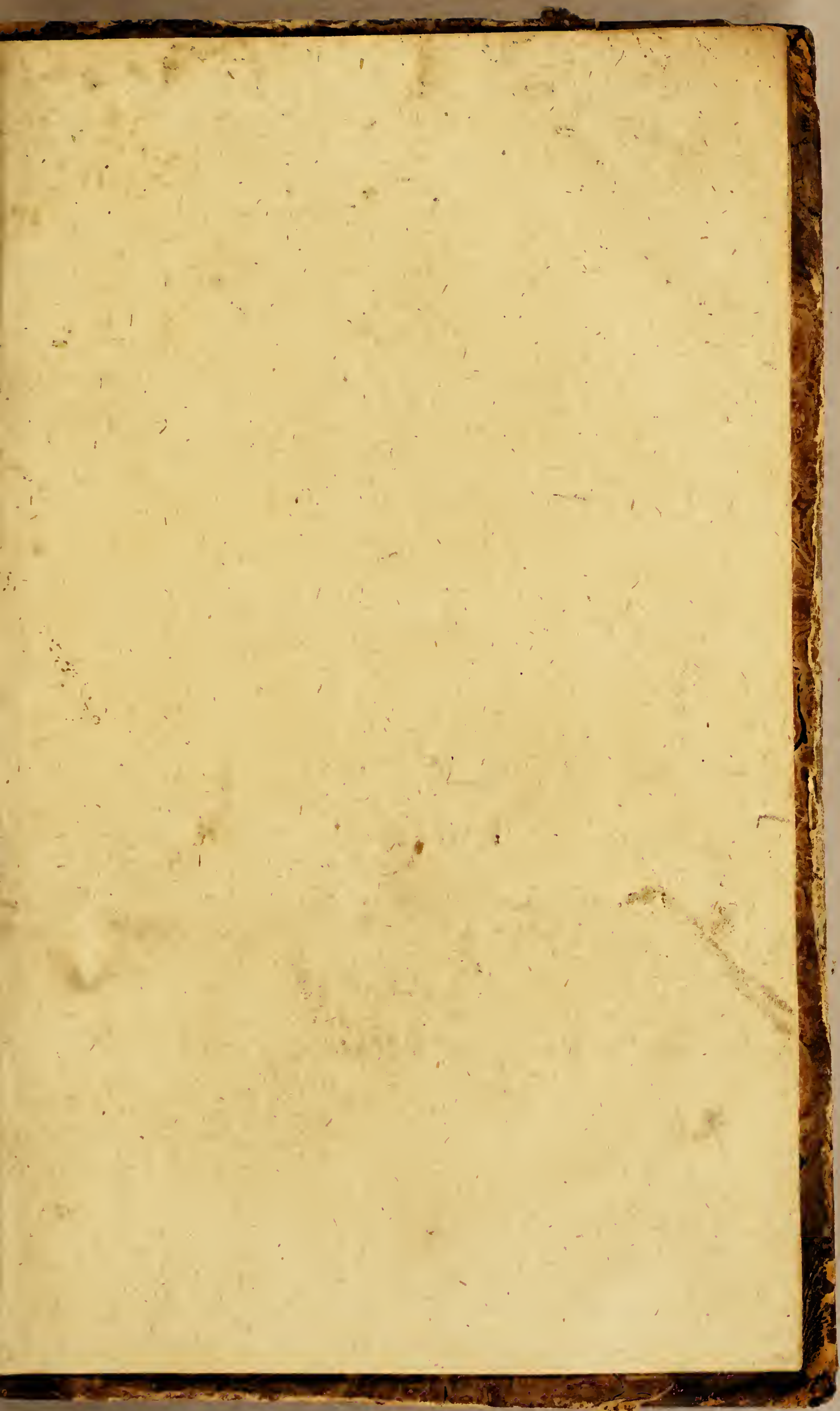




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